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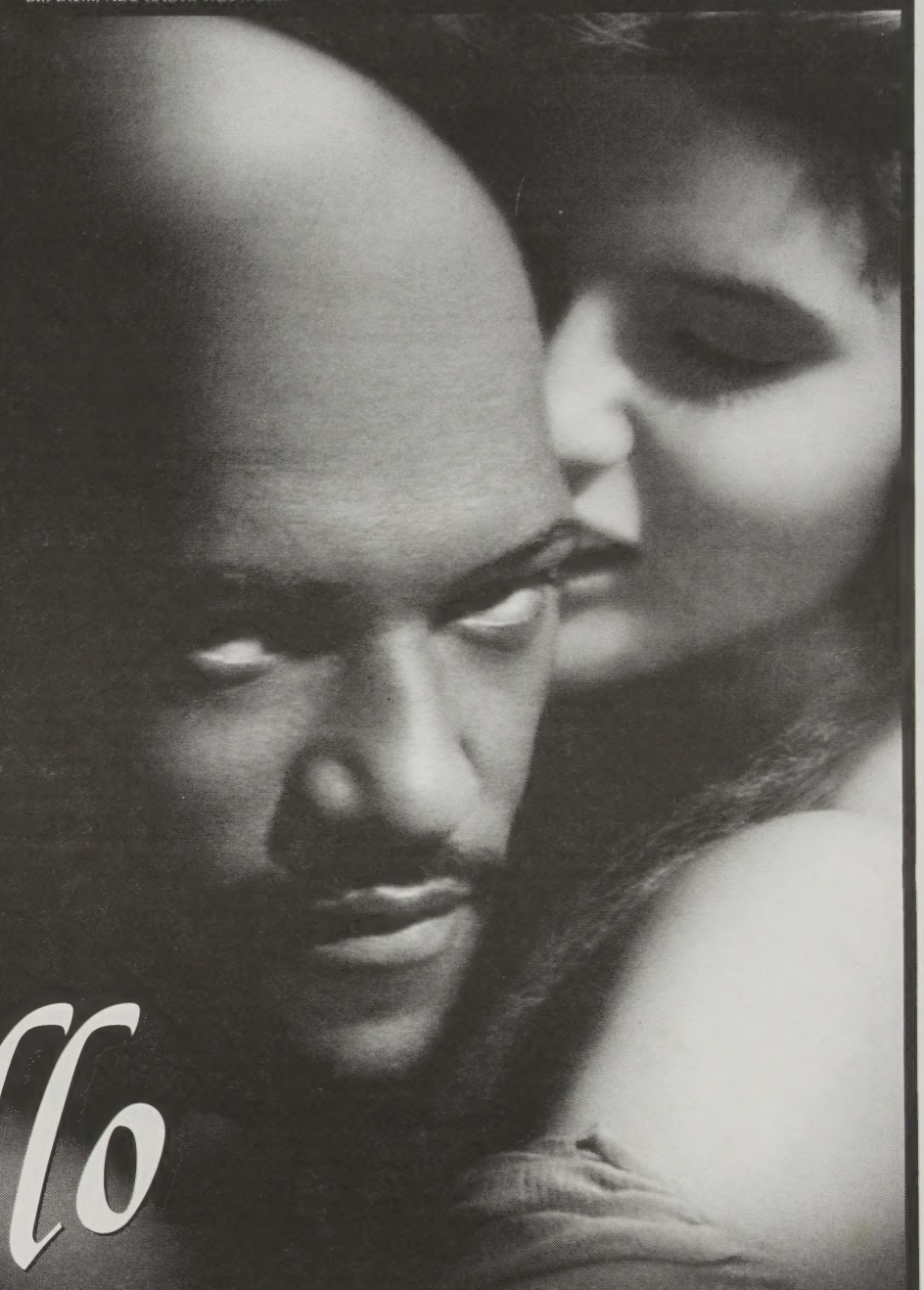

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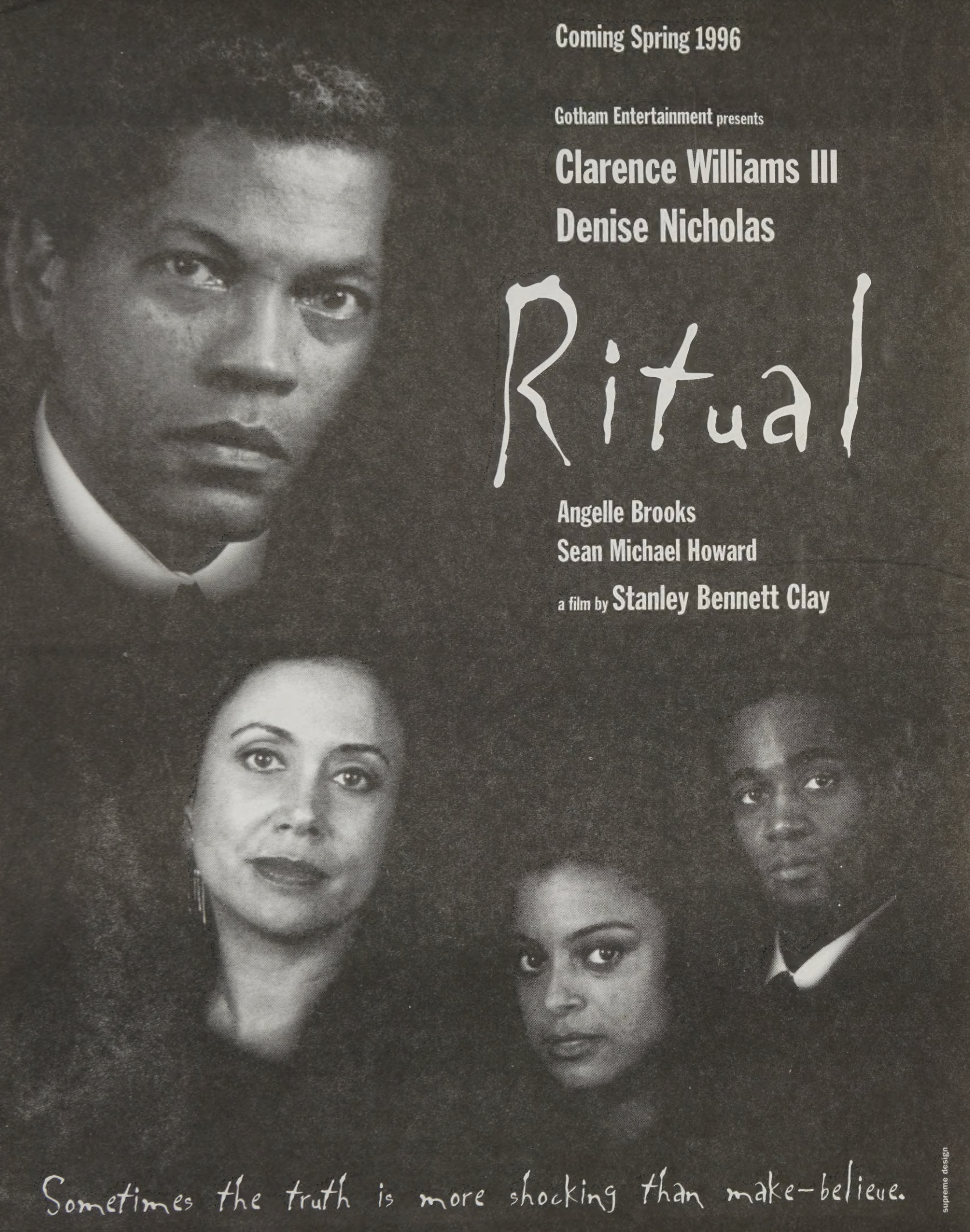
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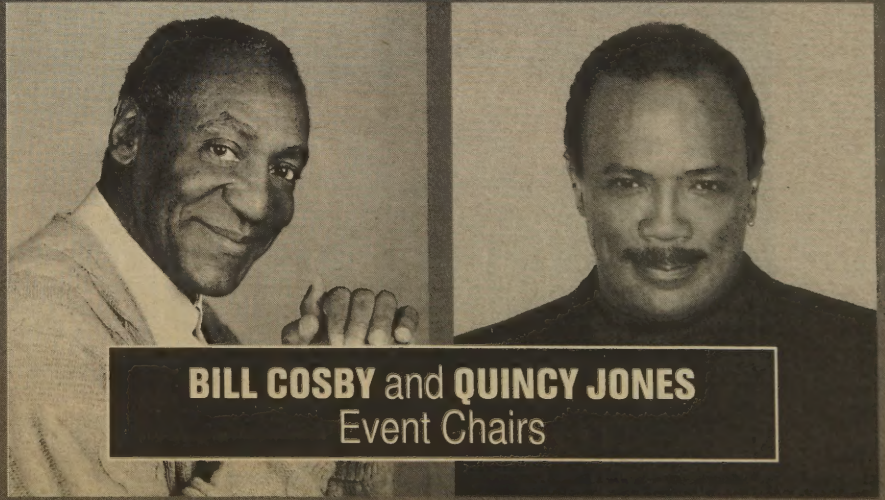

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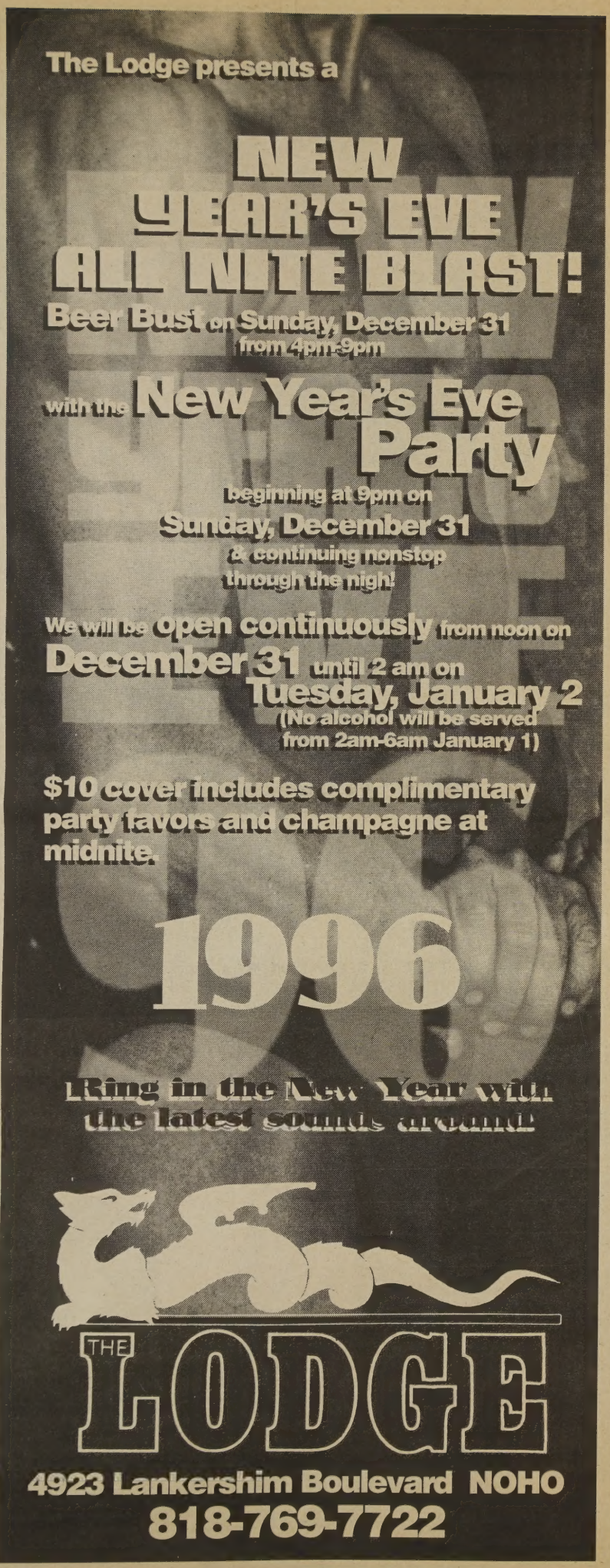
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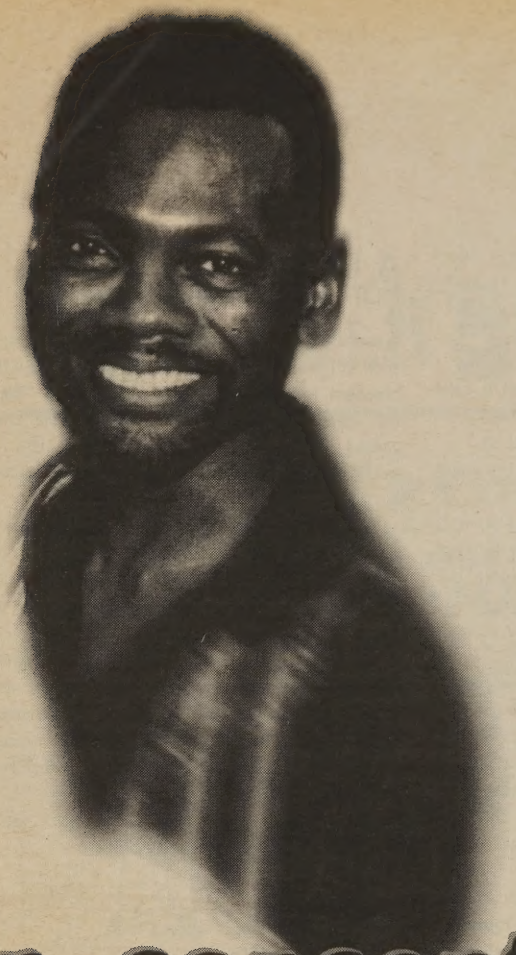


in concept

During this time of reflection on giving, sharing, thanking and counting our blessings which come in the form of family, friends and lovers–

During this time of reflection on educating, enlightening and inspiring ourselves and those around us–

During this time of reflection on personal dignity–

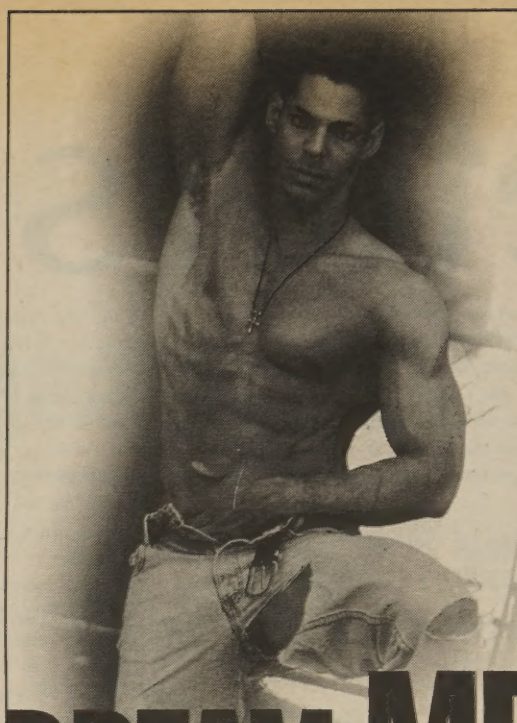
Let us take the energy of these reflecting flames and be moved to action for the good of humanity, for the good of ourselves.

That good which burns so deep inside of each of us compels us each to be a little kinder, a little wiser, a little happier, a little closer to the God of our own individual spiritual design. And, oh yes. A little more self-loving.

That good which burns so deep inside of each of us compels us each to be a little more than we were yesterday. To be a day older, a day better.

1996 belongs to you.
Have fun with it.

Stanley Bennett Clay



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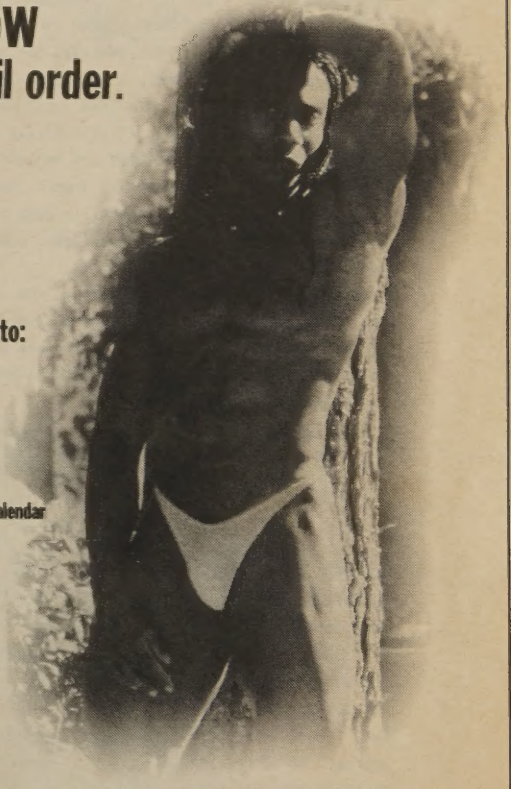

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letters

We gladly welcome your comments and letters. When writing, please include your telephone number which will not be printed, but is needed for verification only. It is not the policy of SBC to print unverifiable, unsigned or anonymous letters. Some letters may be edited for the purpose of space and/or clarity

A Centerfold of Consciousness Suitable For Framing

Your "Atonement" issue (Vol. 4 Issue 5) was fantastic! I really liked the format of before, during and after the [Million Man] March. And the idea of showing a mass of African American men embracing as the centerfold was also masterful.

As a member of BMX (Black Men's Xchange) since it's inception, I was appreciative of Cleo Manago's article "A Day of Replenishment From A Reflecting Pool of Black." The title alone was indicative of that wonderful, wonderful day on behalf of the entire African community, the ancestors, the present, and those yet to be. For certainly a day of replenishment from a pool denotes a people thirsty being satisfied.

The fact that the reflecting pool in Washington D.C. is reminiscent of the reflecting pools in the sacrad enclosures of Kemet, the land of the blacks, also known as Egypt, and the pool on October 16, 1996 reflects black denotes thirsty Blacks amid White Supremacy being satisfied and replenished by drinking up their own beautiful image. Like for like. Brothers, friends, lovers, an army of African warriors, bonded by common experience, common heritage and common taste.

Beautiful. Just beautiful! For me, the images and reality of the Million Man March are more erotic than pictures of individual black models could ever be and this issue of SBC is definitely suitable for framing.

Keep up the good work.

G.J. Coleman
Los Angeles, California

Good Question: Whose Leadership Is It, Anyway?

Dear Brother Andrew Irving:

I'd like to think your intentions in writing to the editor (Letters "Whose Leadership Is it Anyway" SBC Vol.4 Issue 7) in reaction to me were positive. But, I must admit, this idea is challenged by your approach to addressing me, or my (alleged) ideas. I couldn't help but sense within your message a personal agenda, cloaked as a community concern.

I'll be specific. You stated, "(Minister) Louis Farrakhan does not have a monopoly on revolution." My question is: Who said Minister Farrakhan had a monopoly on revolution? Not Me! Weren't you (supposedly) addressing my sentiments? Beyond the workings of your own mind (and agenda), how was this statement relative to my writings on Minister Farrakhan?

Also, you raised the issue of hypocrisy. I found this ironic being that you wrote a letter regarding me, framed as a question of me, [but was] never directed to me.

Lastly. Why would you pose the question, "Why would Mr. Manago praise Farrakhan?," to SBC's reading public, to people who are not me? You must know that no one can answer for me but me! It seems you would have asked me if you really wanted an answer.

It is my impression that your letter was more about YOUR concerns, conveniently espoused to the Black same-gender-loving (SGL) community under the guise of a Cleo Manago critique. This conduct reminds me of behavior I've seen among racist, self-centered Whites; this includes "gays" (Whites). They fear Black "leaders" encouraging Black self-determination could lead Blacks out of White emotional, mental and physical seduction and influence. So these Whites create irrelevant (but divisive) negative critique (like your monopoly comment) of Black leadership in an effort to perplex Blacks into discrediting certain Black "leaders".

They claim to be concerned about Blacks, but ultimately are selfishly concerned about losing their control and/or access to Blacks. In this case, it seems that you, like them, perceive my writings about Farrakhan's efforts, that don't devalue him, as "praising" him. If you're willing to read closely you will notice that I "praise" good work beneficial to the Black collective, including the Million Man March. Black people, regardless of sexuality, benefit from these efforts, but self-centered Whites don't.

I am an advocate and activist for the Black collective, same-gender-loving people and humanity. I don't condone homophobia regardless of its source--be it from Minister Farrakhan, family and friends, another homosexual, or Bill Clinton--as I don't condone White people's prescriptions for what's "in order" for Black people. This way of thinking is definitely "anti-me" and anti-Black (let alone racist).

My suggestion is, instead of posing as the White self-appointed (good intentions or not), anti-Farrakhan police for Black SGL people, admit that YOU don't like Minister Louis Farrakhan for YOUR reasons.

And while you're at it, admit that you (who I assume to be White) don't know what it's like to be Black dealing with the destructive consequences of White-supremacy that Farrakhan brilliantly addressed with the Million Man March.

Speaking again of hypocrisy, I hope you were moved enough to write the media with the same fervor, asking them why they lied about the number of men in attendance at the march. That was also "anti-me", anti-Black, anti-the truth and unprincipled, let alone disrespectful to the nearly 2 million of us who were there.

Cleo Manago
Founder, Black Men's Xchange
San Francisco, California

A British Brother Calls For Submissions

I would like to establish whether you or any of your colleagues are interested in contributing chapters to my forth coming book called "The Greatest Taboo". The book aims to outline the wide and varied Black perspectives on homosexuality in Britain without being homophobic or being derogatory.

In order for the book to be credible I want to maintain a balance by insuring that members of the lesbian and gay community's contribution is up to 50% of the total book irrespective of their perspectives or politics.

The issues that will be discussed are Religion; HIV and AIDS; homophobia in music; White racism and Black homosexuals; Coming out; Myths surrounding homosexuality; The Black & White media perceptions of homosexuality; Police attitudes toward anti-gay violence; Legislation, etc.

If you know of any other parties that may be interest please ask them to contact:

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Thank you in advance,

Delroy Contantine-Simms
Academic researcher & writer
Totenham
London, England

Is Ron Singleton's Lens Of Single Focus?

First I want to thank you on the wonderful job you're doing for the Africentric man. There should be more cohesive methods such as yours.

I want to address something that is a concern for me: the photographs taken by Ron Singleton. He does extraordinary work, but I notice a trend that is in white America and it has seeped [into] communities of color. Most of his photographs are taken of men with well defined, muscular body structures.

Why I am voicing my concerns is that I'm an Africentric gay male who doesn't see enough of himself as it is, and to turn to SBC and see those pictures sadden me. My statue is only 5' 3", 107 lbs. and small frame, and I ask, where am I? Only a few of those picture don't fit the stereotype.

However, I continued to enjoy your news magazine and the information it has to offer.

Derek Alfred
Seattle, Washington

the Black files

by A.G. Alexander

MAN! YOU ARE ONE FINE LOOKIN' BROTHER!
BUS STO
!?
☆₹@#6!! FAGGOT! WHAT YOU THINK I AM, A B#€C★ OR SOMETHIN'!?
I'M A MAN!
POW!
LATER, DURING THE JAIL SENTENCE . . . (FOR ASSAULT)
..LIKE I WAS SAYIN', YOU ONE FINE LOOKIN' YOUNG BROTHER....
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A DAY IN THE LIFE BY BELASCO
SHOPPING SEPARATES THE MEN FROM TH' BOYS...
NUTHIN LIKE SHOPPIN' TO MAKE LIFE WORTHWHILE Eh, DANE?
PLEASE, BILLY... YOU KNOW THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE IS CAUSE YOU BEGGED ME!
DRESSING ROOM
DANE, POOR MISGUIDED DANE YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW HOW THERAPUTIC SHOPPIN' IS...
"THERAPUTIC"?
YEAH, SHOPPIN' FOR CLOTHES IS LIKE BEING REBORN...
"REBORN"?! NOW I KNOW YOU TRIPPIN'.
NO, REALLY!... BUYIN' AN OUTFIT REPRESENTS THE SHEDDING OF TH' OLD YOU AND TH' BIRTH OF A BRAND NEW YOU!
OH, LORD.
WITH EACH NEW ENSEMBLE YOU ARE ONE STEP CLOSER TO REVEALIN' TH' REAL YOU TO TH' WORLD!
!!!
BILLY, TH' "REAL" ME WANTS TO KNOW WHAT TH' "REAL" YOU IS STARIN' AT?!!
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news you can use 411

HAWAII STATE COMMISSION URGES LEGISLATURE TO LEGALIZE MARRIAGE FOR SAME-GENDER COUPLES

National Freedom to Marry Coalition Hails Historic Step

Honolulu, Hawaii--In an historic first, a Hawaii state government-created commission, specifically charged with studying the freedom to marry that is denied same-gender couples, forwarded a report to the state legislature on December 8, 1995 recommending Hawaii marriage laws be amended "to allow two people regardless of their gender to marry."

The report by the Hawaii Commission on Sexual Orientation and the Law, whose members were appointed by the governor, will now go to the state legislature. The commission was created by the legislature in June, 1994, to determine how best to address the ways in which same-gender couples are affected by not being able to marry.

"After months of intense research and witness testimony, a government body has finally concluded that there is no legitimate reason for the state to continue refusing civil marriage," said Rich Tafel of Log Cabin Republicans. Log Cabin Republicans is a member of the National Freedom to Marry Coalition, a broad alliance of city, state and national gay and non-gay groups across the country.

"They looked at all the arguments for and against same-gender marriage and concluded it's wrong for government to say 'no' to people saying 'I do,'" said Tafel.

The commission was created in response to a landmark lawsuit challenging the denial of civil licenses to same-gender couples. In May, 1993, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that the "same-gender restriction" on marriage appears to violate the state constitution. The Court held that unless the state can identify a "compelling" justification for discriminating, it must stop. The case, Baehr v. Lewin, is now before the lower court, where the couples are represented by co-counsel Dan Foley of the Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project (HERMP) and Evan Wolfson of Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund.

"The commission's report further strengthens our court challenge, clearly illustrating that the state has no 'compelling' reason to deny same-gender couples the freedom to marry," said Tom Ramsey, Co-Chair of HERMP. "If the legislature fails to end the discriminatory restriction on marriage, we're still confident that the Hawaii Supreme Court will, through the Baehr v. Lewin Case. It was less than 30 years ago that courts took a similar stand, ending the ban on interracial marriage."

The landmark report was hailed by leaders of gay and non-gay organizations nationwide as a key step in educating the public about how the denial of the freedom to marry harms couples and fosters inequality.

"Many Americans have never thought about marriage in connection with lesbian and gay people, or even about the reality that same-gender couples form families that need protection and deserve support," said Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign, a member of the National Freedom to Marry Coalition. "The commission did its homework and looked at equal marriage rights fairly and methodically. We invite the public, judges, and legislators in the rest of the country to do the same."

The seven-member commission, headed by highly-respected former Lt. Gov. Tom Gill, represented a diverse range of views. It's report has already been editorially endorsed by Hawaii's two leading newspapers.

The National Freedom to Marry Coalition is a broad association of gay and non-gay local, state and national organizations, working to educate the public and encourage support for same-gender marriage.

FORUM ANNOUNCES 9TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

E. Lynn Harris to Release New Book at Dallas Conference

Los Angeles, California--Best-selling author E. Lynn Harris will give the first major reading from his new book *And This Too Shall Pass*, at the National Black Lesbian and Gay Conference February 15-19, 1996 in Dallas, Texas.

The reading is one of several exciting events scheduled to take place at the 9th Annual Conference of the National Black Gay & Lesbian Leadership Forum, the nation's oldest and largest Black lesbian and gay organization. Also at the conference. Drs. Sylvia Rhue and Dee Mosbacher and Frances Reid will screen their new film, "All God's Children", a documentary response to the radical right's homophobic efforts to exploit Black churches.

Other invited guest include Harvard Professor Cornel West and former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan.

Each year, the conference brings together more than 1,000 participants from across the country in the nation's largest gathering of African American lesbians and gays to address enlightening topics that affect the community. This year's conference theme, "Black Lesbians and Gays: Continuing the Struggle," celebrates the lives, legacies and ongoing work of African American lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities across the nation.

Previous conference speakers have included the Rev. Jesse Jackson, U.S. Representative Maxine Waters, former Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, Angela Davis, bell hooks, Bishop Carl Bean, *Essence* Magazine Executive Editor Linda Villarosa, Cambridge Mayor Ken Reeves, Dr. Marjorie Hill and writer/activists Audre Lorde, Essex Hemphill and Barbara Smith. Previous conference entertainers have included Chaka Khan, Natalie Cole, Whoopi Goldberg, Peabo Bryson and Me'shell NdegeO'cello.

Conference topics include men's and womyn's issues, personal development, grassroots activism, HIV/AIDS, spirituality, young adult issues, leadership and public policy. Highlight of the conference include the Annual Awards Banquet and Dance and the AIDS Memorial Service.

This year's conference will be held at the Harvey Hotel Brook Hollow, 7050 N. Stemmons; Dallas, Texas 75247, and is being hosted by Dallas Ujima.

NEW *READY FOR ACTION* POSITION AVAILABLE

Long Beach, California--Ready For Action, an outreach program to gay and bisexual men in the Long Beach area, has expanded activities to include workshops and a peer support group. To help these duties, Ready For Action will be hiring a part-time Group Facilitator.

The new position includes conducting workshops and co-facilitating a counseling group for men who have trouble staying safer. Duties also include arranging workshops conducted by other groups, and recruiting individuals for the workshops and groups. Because some activities take place in sites around Long Beach, including bars, applicants must be at least 21 and have their own transportation and auto insurance. Applicants must be able to interact comfortably with various cultural and ethnic populations of men who have sex with men.

The position is for fourteen hours a week and pays $9.97 an hour. Resumes may be faxed to 310.983.1421, or may be submitted in person at 1407 East Fourth Street. For more information, contact Michael Buitron at 310.495.21330 ext. 145. Refer to position #1329.

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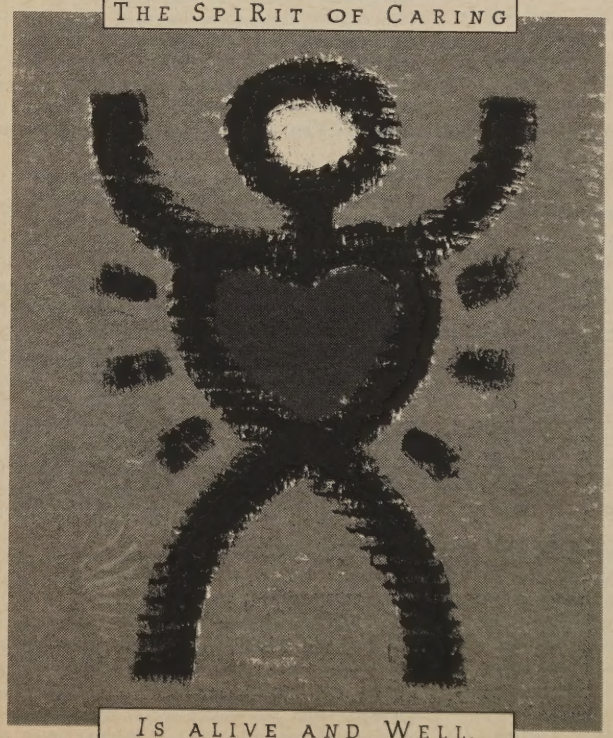

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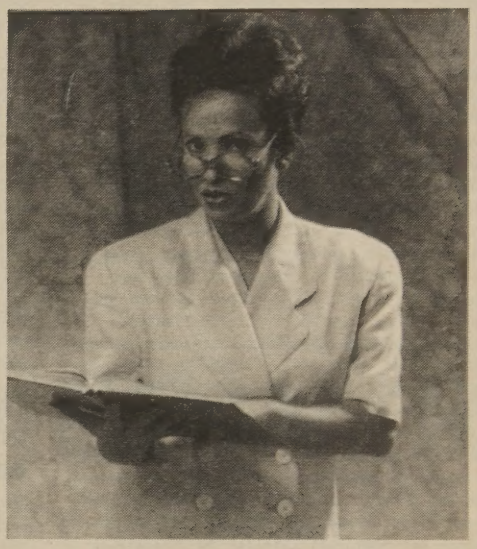

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WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

THE L.A. GAY & LESBIAN CENTER PROTESTS NEW ANTI-IMMIGRANT LEGISLATION

New Report Shows Rise in Hate Crimes Against Immigrants

Los Angeles, California–The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center was one of a dozen groups that took part in a candlelight vigil Monday, November 6, protesting proposed welfare reform legislation that threatens to significantly cut benefits to legal and undocument immigrants, denying them access to such programs as MediCal, Supplemental Security Income, student loans and many other federal benefits and social services. More than 200 people attended the vigil at the Federal Building in Downtown Los Angeles.

"In their relentless pursuit to find scapegoats for the country's economic woes, the Republican-controlled Congress has unleashed yet another unmerciful assault on American immigrants," said Roger Coggan, Director of Legal Services at the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center. "The immigrant issue is of particular concern to our community as some foreign countries unjustly persecute gay men and lesbians, forcing many to live in a climate of fear. The legislation threatens to further exacerbate that racial and social division in this country, fueling more intolerance and hate. Communities across this country–gay, straight, white, black, rich, poor–need to unite in fighting such anti-American legislation."

The landslide passage of Presidential Candidate Senator Bob Dole's "Work Opportunity Act of 1995" on September 19 promises to deprive millions of low-income and immigrant families from receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and nearly all other federal, state and local-based programs, including MediCal. In addition, under an amendment to Dole's bill, about 120,000 legal immigrants in California could lose close to $200 million in federal education aid, including Pell grants and other federal financial aid for students.

A new report released November 7 by The Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission documents a 23.5% increase in hate crimes against Latinos in 1994, coinciding with the anti-immigrant sentiment that led to the passage of Proposition 187. Some of the findings cited hate crimes directed specifically against gay and lesbian immigrants. More than 60% of the cases of civil rights violations, discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes investigated for this report involved citizens or legal permanent residents.

Because the gay and lesbian community faces unique immigrant issues, the Gay & Lesbian Center has established the immigration Law Project, the first of its kind. Those in need of immigration advice or support are encouraged to call the Immigration Law Project Coordinator Olga Sanchez-Gambirazzio at 213.993.7677.

The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, with more than 210 staff and an annual budget of $16 million, is the world's largest gay and lesbian organization, one of the nation's leading HIV/AIDS care providers and equal rights advocate, and home to an array of free or low cost health, education, cultural and social programs serving thousands of ethnically divers youth and adults each month.

NEW LEATHER CLUB FORMED FOR CHICAGO'S MEN OF COLOR

Chicago, Illinois–A new social club has joined the SM, leather, fetish community in the Windy City: ONYX/chicago. The primary purpose of the club is to provide an educational and social outlet for African-American, Latino and Asian men and their friends involved or interested in the leather/SM/fetish scene.

As the number of men of color participating in various leather events increases, the organizers felt the need to form a group that would support and promote inclusion within the leather community at-large.

The first event will be a trip to the Mid-Atlantic Leather Weekend, January 12-15 1996 in Washington, D.C. More events, including club nights, are in the planning stages.

The club is also looking to correspond with individuals and other leather clubs for men of color nationally in order to form a social network.

To contact, join or correspond, please address all inquiries (along with a self-addressed stamped envelope) to the club administrator, Mufassa/ ONYX/Chicago/1340 Irving Park Rd. #188/Chicago, Il 60613.

EXPANDED LESBIAN, GAY AND BISEXUAL FUNDERS DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

New York, New York–The Working Group on Funding Lesbian and Gay Issues announces the publication of its newly expanded Funders of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Programs: A Directory for Grantseekers. The original Directory, published in September 1993 and the first of its kind, was created to provide information on potential funders for organizations and projects working with lesbian, gay and bisexual communities. The update furthers this goal by expanding the list of funders with over 50 additional entries. These additions provide information on local, regional and national funding of grants ranging from $500 to $50,000.

Despite the encouraging picture the Directory paints, with its list of 164 potential funders, the actual amount of support for lesbian, gay and bisexual organizations and projects remains below 1 percent of the total philanthropic dollars spent annually. "We are pleased to see other grantors are taking an interest in funding lesbian, gay and bisexual projects," states Marry Ann Snyder, Executive Director of the Chicago Resource Center and Co-Chair of the Working Group, " however, we remain one of only a few private foundations in the country with program areas dedicated to lesbian and gay issues."

The organizations listed in the Directory have provided financial support to lesbian, gay and/or bisexual programs. However, the extent of this support varies greatly, from exclusive funding of lesbian or gay projects, to awarding a single grant to a lesbian or gay organization. Although most of the entries fund programs only in their geographic area, a significant number also fund throughout the country.

The Working Group on Funding Lesbian and Gay Issues was formed in 1982 in response to the lack of visibility and funding for these issues in the philanthropic community. It is a volunteer organization comprised of individual donors and grantmakers from private, public, community and corporate foundations. The mission of the Working Group is to increase the philanthropic community's knowledge and understanding of critical funding needs in the lesbian, gay bisexual communities, and to educate communities and organizations serving gay men and lesbians about philanthropy and how to access philanthropic resources. To further these ends, the Working Group has also published a guide for funders entitled Reaching Out: A Grantmakers' Guide to Lesbian and Gay Issues.

"Although lesbians and gay men have done an admirable job in supporting their own communities over the years, the pressing needs of lesbians, gay and bisexual citizens for services and legal protection are much greater than the resources available," says Bob Crane, Vice President, Joyce Mertz-Gilmore Foundation and Co-Chair, Working Group. "In addition, there remains an important educational task within the philanthropic community to promote understanding of and equal rights for people regardless of their sexual orientation. The working Group can play a significant role in this process."

The updated Directory is available from the Working Group for $10 (plus $2 for postage and handling). To order the Directory or for further information on the Working Group contact Nancy Cunningham, Executive Director, Working Group on Funding Lesbian and Gay Issues, 116 East 16th Street, 7th Floor, New York, New York 10001. Telephone: 212.475.2930. FAX: 212.982.3321

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR STUDY OF ACUPUNCTURE TREATMENT ON HIV/AIDS

Los Angeles, California–Traditional Chinese Medicine's effectiveness in treating a number if HIV/AIDS-related symptoms including stress, nausea, muscle weakness and fatigue has led researchers at the Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center to embark on a 12-week study that will discover how regular acupuncture treatments affect the course, severity and outcome of HIV/AIDS-related symptoms. Participants are being sought for this study.

Established four years ago, the acupuncture program at the Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic has treated hundreds of HIV/AIDS infected clients with regular acupuncture therapy. Researcher hope this new study will lend further credence to the validity of Eastern Medicine in the treatment of HIV and AIDS. Patient participants will be evaluated according to both Western laboratory values and Traditional Chinese Medicine diagnostic guidelines.

"Chines medicine and acupuncture have been practiced for 5,000 years," said Juan Ledesma, Director of Health Services, "yet only recently has it begun to gain acceptance in this country. We're very excited to finally document its benefits to people with HIV and AIDS. The results of the acupuncture treatment we offer Goodman Clinic clients has been very favorable."

Dr. Jan Steele, O.M.D., L.Ac., Acupuncture Services Program Manager, said "the study will target primarily individuals with symptomatic HIV." All participants, who must have between 200 and 500 T-cells, will submit blood samples and complete a variety of questionnaires to determine the effectiveness of the treatment. The enrollment period is open and the results of the study will be made public.

For more information on being a participant in the study, please call staff acupuncturist Lorraine Wilcox at 213.993.7537 ext. 304.

The Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic at the Gay & Lesbian Center provides the most comprehensive "one-stop" system for HIV/AIDS care in the nation, offering the widest array of educational, medical, legal and psycho-social services available at any one agency–all at minimal or no cost.

A NEW MEDICINE

3TC

IS NOW AVAILABLE

AND IT'S CALLED

EPIVIR™
(LAMIVUDINE)

EPIVIR is recommended for use in combination with RETROVIR® (zidovudine) for the treatment of HIV when antiretroviral therapy is indicated based on disease progression. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate markers of HIV, such as CD4 cell counts. The effect of the EPIVIR + RETROVIR combination on disease progression and survival has not yet been established.

To learn more about EPIVIR (3TC), please see your doctor or other healthcare professional. EPIVIR and RETROVIR (AZT) are available by prescription only.

Please see important information about EPIVIR and RETROVIR on adjacent page.

GlaxoWellcome
Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Printed in USA. RTV038 December 1995

Epivir™ Tablets (lamivudine tablets)
Epivir™ Oral Solution (lamivudine oral solution)

BRIEF SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary only. Before prescribing, see complete prescribing information in Epivir™ Tablets and Epivir™ Oral Solution product labeling.

WARNING: Epivir™ (lamivudine) is indicated for use in combination with Retrovir® (zidovudine) for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection when antiretroviral therapy is warranted based on clinical and/or immunological evidence of disease progression. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints. At present, there are no results from controlled clinical trials evaluating the effect of therapy with Epivir plus Retrovir on the clinical progression of HIV infection, such as the incidence of opportunistic infections or survival.

Patients receiving Epivir plus Retrovir may continue to develop opportunistic infections and other complications of HIV infection, and therefore should remain under close observation by physicians experienced in the treatment of patients with HIV-associated diseases.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Epivir™ Tablets and Oral Solution are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the products.

WARNINGS: PANCREATITIS IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS: IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH A HISTORY OF PANCREATITIS OR OTHER SIGNIFICANT RISK FACTORS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PANCREATITIS, THE COMBINATION OF EPIVIR™ AND RETROVIR® (ZIDOVUDINE) SHOULD BE USED WITH EXTREME CAUTION AND ONLY IF THERE IS NO SATISFACTORY ALTERNATIVE THERAPY. TREATMENT WITH EPIVIR SHOULD BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY IF CLINICAL SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, OR LABORATORY ABNORMALITIES SUGGESTIVE OF PANCREATITIS OCCUR (SEE ADVERSE REACTIONS).

The complete prescribing information for Retrovir should be consulted before combination therapy with Epivir and Retrovir is initiated.

PRECAUTIONS:

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosage of Epivir™ is recommended for patients with impaired renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of complete prescribing information and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Information for Patients: Epivir is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with Epivir has not been shown to reduce the frequency of such illnesses and patients should remain under the care of a physician when using Epivir. Patients should be advised that the use of Epivir has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be advised that the long-term effects of Epivir are unknown at this time.

Epivir Tablets and Oral Solution are for oral ingestion only.

Patients should be advised of the importance of taking Epivir exactly as it is prescribed.

Parents or guardians should be advised to monitor pediatric patients for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis.

Drug Interaction: Trimethoprim (TMP) 160 mg/sulfamethoxazole (SMX) 800 mg once daily has been shown to increase lamivudine exposure (AUC). The effect of higher doses of TMP/SMX on lamivudine pharmacokinetics has not been investigated (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of complete prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies of lamivudine in animals have not yet been completed. Lamivudine was not active in a microbial mutagenicity screen or an *in vitro* cell transformation assay, but showed weak *in vitro* mutagenic activity in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes and in the mouse lymphoma assay. However, lamivudine showed no evidence of *in vivo* genotoxic activity in the rat at oral doses of up to 2,000 mg/kg (approximately 65 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area comparisons). In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area comparisons, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Pregnancy: ***Pregnancy Category C:*** Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits at orally administered doses up to approximately 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose and have revealed no evidence of harm to the fetus due to lamivudine. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproductive toxicity studies are not always predictive of human response, lamivudine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: *To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to Epivir, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established.* Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 722-9292, ext.58465.

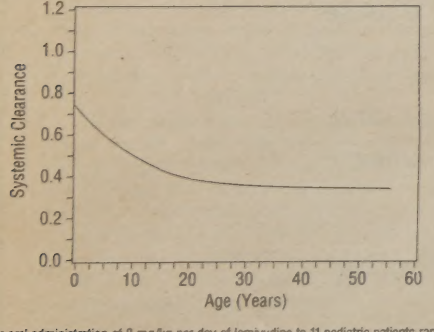
Nursing Mothers: A study in which lactating rats were administered 45 mg/kg of lamivudine showed that lamivudine concentrations in milk were slightly greater than those in plasma. Although it is not known if lamivudine is excreted in human milk, there is the potential for adverse effects from lamivudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving lamivudine. This instruction is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control recommendation that HIV-infected mothers not breast feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Pediatric Use: THERE ARE NO DATA ON THE USE OF EPIVIR IN COMBINATION WITH RETROVIR IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS.

Lamivudine monotherapy was studied in one open-label, uncontrolled trial (study A2002) in 97 pediatric patients with the following demographics: male (56%), Caucasian (57%), median age of 7.7 years (range: 0.4 to 17.3 years), symptomatic HIV (84%), median duration of prior antiretroviral therapy (148 weeks), and median baseline CD4 of 132 cells/mm³. Pharmacokinetic properties of lamivudine were assessed in a subset of 57 patients (age range: 4.8 months to 16 years, weight range: 5 to 66 kg) after oral and IV administration of 1, 2, 4, 8, 12, and 20 mg/kg per day. In the 9 infants and children receiving 8 mg/kg per day (the usual recommended pediatric dose), absolute bioavailability was 66% ± 26% (mean ± S.D.), which is less than the 86% ± 16% (mean ± S.D.) observed in adolescents and adults. The mechanism for the diminished absolute bioavailability of lamivudine in infants and children is unknown.

Systemic clearance decreased with increasing age in pediatric patients, as shown in the following figure.

Systemic Clearance (L/hr•kg) of Lamivudine in Relation to Age



After oral administration of 8 mg/kg per day of lamivudine to 11 pediatric patients ranging from 4 months to 14 years of age, C_{max} was 1.1 ± 0.6 µg/mL and half-life was 2.0 ± 0.6 hours. (In adults with similar blood sampling, the half-life was 3.7 ± 1 hours.) Total exposure to lamivudine, as reflected by mean AUC values, was comparable between pediatric patients receiving an 8 mg/kg/day dose and adults receiving a 4 mg/kg/day dose.

Distribution of lamivudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 38 pediatric patients after multiple oral dosing with lamivudine. CSF samples were collected between 2 and 4 hours post-dose. At the dose of 8 mg/kg/day, CSF lamivudine concentrations in eight patients ranged from 5.6% to 30.9% (mean ± S.D. of 14.2% ± 7.9%) of the concentration in a simultaneous serum sample, with CSF lamivudine concentrations ranging from 0.04 to 0.3 µg/mL.

See INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Description of Clinical Studies section of complete prescribing information and WARNINGS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Adults: Selected clinical adverse events with a ≥5% frequency during therapy with Epivir™ 150 mg b.i.d. plus Retrovir® (zidovudine) 200 mg t.i.d. compared with zidovudine are listed in Table 1.

Table 1: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (≥5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials (A3001, A3002, B3001, B3002)

Adverse Event	Epivir 150 mg b.i.d. plus Retrovir (n=251)	Retrovir (n=230)
Body as a whole		
Headache	35%	27%
Malaise and fatigue	27%	23%
Fever or chills	10%	12%
Digestive		
Nausea	33%	29%
Diarrhea	18%	22%
Nausea and vomiting	13%	12%
Anorexia and/or decreased appetite	10%	7%
Abdominal pain	9%	11%
Abdominal cramps	6%	3%
Dyspepsia	5%	5%
Nervous		
Neuropathy	12%	10%
Dizziness	10%	4%
Insomnia & other sleep disorders	11%	7%
Depressive disorders	9%	4%
Respiratory		
Nasal signs & symptoms	20%	11%
Cough	18%	13%
Skin & appendages		
Skin rashes	9%	6%
Musculoskeletal		
Musculoskeletal pain	12%	10%
Myalgia	8%	6%
Arthralgia	5%	5%

Pancreatitis was observed in 3 of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received Epivir in controlled clinical trials.

Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials (A3001, A3002, B3001, B3002)*

Test (Abnormal Level)	Epivir 150 mg b.i.d. Plus Retrovir % (n)	Retrovir % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm³)	7.2% (237)	5.4% (222)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2.9% (241)	1.8% (218)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm³)	0.4% (240)	1.3% (223)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)	3.6% (224)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)	1.8% (223)
Bilirubin (>2.5 ULN)	0.8% (241)	0.4% (220)
Amylase (>2.0 ULN)	4.2% (72)	1.5% (133)

ULN=Upper limit of normal ANC=absolute neutrophil count n=Number of patients assessed
*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Pediatric Patients: Limited information on the incidence of adverse events in children receiving lamivudine monotherapy is available from one open-label, uncontrolled study (see PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric Use section for description of study A2002). **Of 97 pediatric patients, 14 patients (14%) developed pancreatitis while receiving monotherapy with Epivir. In a second ongoing study in 47 pediatric patients (age range: 3 months to 18 years) enrolled in an open-label evaluation of Epivir/didanosine, Epivir/Retrovir, and Epivir/Retrovir/didanosine, 7 patients (15%) developed pancreatitis (see WARNINGS).**

Paresthesias and peripheral neuropathies were reported in 13 patients (13%) in study A2002 and resulted in treatment discontinuation in 3 patients.

Selected laboratory abnormalities during lamivudine therapy in children are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities in an Uncontrolled Phase I/II Clinical Trial of Epivir in 97 Pediatric Patients

Test (Abnormal Level)	Patients With Normal Baselines % (n)	Patients With Abnormal Baselines % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm³)	22% (55)	45% (33)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2% (50)	24% (46)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<40,000/mm³)	0% (68)	25% (12)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	4% (51)	29% (42)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	0% (29)	19% (57)
Amylase (>2.0 ULN)	3% (69)	23% (13)

ULN=Upper limit of normal ANC=absolute neutrophil count n=Number of patients assessed

OVERDOSAGE: There is no known antidote for Epivir™. One case of an adult ingesting 6 g of Epivir was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: (See complete prescribing information in Epivir™ product labeling.)

Dose Adjustment: It is recommended that doses of Epivir be adjusted in accordance with renal function in patients older than age 16 years (see Table 4). (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section.)

Table 4: Adjustment of Dosage of Epivir in Accordance With Creatinine Clearance

Creatinine Clearance (mL/min)	Recommended Dosage of Epivir
≥50	150 mg twice daily
30-49	150 mg once daily
15-29	150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily
5-14	150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily
<5	50 mg first dose, then 25 mg once daily

Insufficient data are available to recommend a dosage of Epivir™ in patients undergoing dialysis.

Manufactured under agreement from **BioChem Pharma Inc.**
275 Armand Frappier Blvd.
Laval, Quebec, Canada H7V 4A7
Epivir™ Oral Solution Manufactured in England
U.S. Patent 5,047,407
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November 1995/RL-224

GlaxoWellcome
Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Capsules
RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Syrup

BRIEF SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary only. Before prescribing, see complete prescribing information in RETROVIR® Capsules and Syrup product labeling.

WARNING: RETROVIR (ZIDOVUDINE) MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATOLOGIC TOXICITY INCLUDING GRANULOCYTOPENIA AND SEVERE ANEMIA PARTICULARLY IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) DISEASE (SEE WARNINGS). PROLONGED USE OF RETROVIR HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOMATIC MYOPATHY SIMILAR TO THAT PRODUCED BY HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS.

RARE OCCURRENCES OF LACTIC ACIDOSIS IN THE ABSENCE OF HYPOXEMIA, AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF ANTIRETROVIRAL NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES, INCLUDING RETROVIR AND ZALCITABINE, AND ARE POTENTIALLY FATAL (SEE WARNINGS).

CONTRAINDICATIONS: RETROVIR Capsules and Syrup are contraindicated for patients who have potentially life-threatening allergic reactions to any of the components of the formulations.

WARNINGS: Note: The full safety and efficacy profile of RETROVIR has not been defined, particularly in regard to prolonged use in HIV-infected individuals who have less advanced disease (see INDICATIONS AND USAGE and CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Microbiology sections of full prescribing information and PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility). The incidence of adverse reactions appears to increase with disease progression, and patients should be monitored carefully, especially as disease progression occurs.

The safety profile of combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine reflects the individual safety profiles of each component. The complete prescribing information for zalcitabine should be consulted before combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: RETROVIR should be used with extreme caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL. In all of the placebo-controlled studies, but most frequently in patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease, anemia and granulocytopenia were the most significant adverse events observed (see ADVERSE REACTIONS). There have been reports of pancytopenia associated with the use of RETROVIR, which was reversible in most instances after discontinuance of the drug.

Significant anemia most commonly occurred after 4 to 6 weeks of therapy and in many cases required dose adjustment, discontinuation of RETROVIR, and/or blood transfusions. Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease taking RETROVIR. For asymptomatic HIV-infected individuals and patients with early HIV disease, most of whom have better marrow reserve, blood counts may be obtained less frequently, depending upon the patient's overall status. If anemia or granulocytopenia develops, dosage adjustments may be necessary (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis with pathological changes, similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of RETROVIR.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Rare occurrences of lactic acidosis in the absence of hypoxemia, and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis have been reported with the use of antiretroviral nucleoside analogues, including RETROVIR and zalcitabine, and are potentially fatal; it is not known whether these events are causally related to the use of these drugs. Lactic acidosis should be considered whenever a patient receiving therapy with RETROVIR develops unexplained tachypnea, dyspnea, or fall in serum bicarbonate level. Under these circumstances, therapy with RETROVIR should be suspended until the diagnosis of lactic acidosis has been excluded. Caution should be exercised when administering RETROVIR to any patient, particularly obese women, with hepatomegaly, hepatitis, or other known risk factor for liver disease. These patients should be followed closely while on therapy with RETROVIR. The significance of elevated aminotransferase levels suggesting hepatic injury in HIV-infected patients prior to starting RETROVIR or while on RETROVIR is unclear. Treatment with RETROVIR should be suspended in the setting of rapidly elevating aminotransferase levels, progressive hepatomegaly, or metabolic/lactic acidosis of unknown etiology.

Other Serious Adverse Reactions: Several serious adverse events have been reported with use of RETROVIR in clinical practice. Reports of pancreatitis, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis in one patient), vasculitis, and seizures have been rare. These adverse events, except for sensitization, have also been associated with HIV disease. Changes in skin and nail pigmentation have been associated with the use of RETROVIR.

Use in Infancy: A positive test for HIV-antibody in children under 15 months of age may represent passively acquired maternal antibodies, rather than an active antibody response to infection in the infant. Thus, the presence of HIV-antibody in a child less than 15 months of age must be interpreted with caution, especially in the asymptomatic infant. Confirmatory tests such as serum p24 antigen or viral culture should be pursued in such children.

PRECAUTIONS:

General: Zidovudine is eliminated from the body primarily by renal excretion following metabolism in the liver (glucuronidation). In patients with severely impaired renal function, dosage reduction is recommended (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics section of full prescribing information and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Although very little data are available, patients with severely impaired hepatic function may be at greater risk of toxicity.

Information for Patients: RETROVIR is not a cure for HIV infections, and patients may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Therefore, patients should be advised to seek medical care for any significant change in their health status.

The safety and efficacy of RETROVIR in women, intravenous drug users, and racial minorities[1-3] is not significantly different than that observed in white males.

Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of RETROVIR are granulocytopenia and/or anemia. The frequency and severity of these toxicities are greater in patients with more advanced disease and in those who initiate therapy later in the course of their infection. They should be told that if toxicity develops, they may require transfusions or dose modifications including possible discontinuation. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease. They should be cautioned about the use of other medications, including ganciclovir and interferon-alpha, that may exacerbate the toxicity of RETROVIR (see PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions). Patients should be informed that other adverse effects of RETROVIR include nausea and vomiting. Patients should also be encouraged to contact their physician if they experience muscle weakness, shortness of breath, symptoms of hepatitis or pancreatitis, or any other unexpected adverse events while being treated with RETROVIR.

RETROVIR Capsules and Syrup are for oral ingestion only. Patients should be told of the importance of taking RETROVIR exactly as prescribed. They should be told not to share medication and not to exceed the recommended dose. Patients should be told that the long-term effects of RETROVIR are unknown at this time.

Pregnant women considering the use of RETROVIR during pregnancy for prevention of HIV-transmission to their infants should be advised that transmission may still occur in some cases despite therapy. The long-term consequences of *in utero* and infant exposure to RETROVIR are unknown.

HIV-infected pregnant women should be advised not to breast-feed to avoid postnatal transmission of HIV to a child who may not yet be infected.

Patients should be advised that therapy with RETROVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Drug Interactions: ***Ganciclovir:*** Use of RETROVIR in combination with ganciclovir increases the risk of hematologic toxicities in some patients with advanced HIV disease. Should the use of this combination become necessary in the treatment of patients with HIV disease, dose reduction or interruption of one or both agents may be necessary to minimize hematologic toxicity. Hematologic parameters, including hemoglobin, hematocrit, and white blood cell count with differential, should be monitored frequently in all patients receiving this combination.

Interferon-alpha: Hematologic toxicities have also been seen when RETROVIR is used concomitantly with interferon-alpha. As with the concomitant use of RETROVIR and ganciclovir, dose reduction or interruption of one or both agents may be necessary, and hematologic parameters should be monitored frequently.

Bone Marrow Suppressive Agents/Cytotoxic Agents: Coadministration of RETROVIR with drugs that are cytotoxic or which interfere with RBC/WBC number or function (e.g., dapsone, flucytosine, vincristine, vinblastine, or adria-mycin) may increase the risk of hematologic toxicity.

Probenecid: Limited data suggest that probenecid may increase zidovudine levels by inhibiting glucuronidation and/or by reducing renal excretion of zidovudine. Some patients who have used RETROVIR concomitantly with probenecid have developed flu-like symptoms consisting of myalgia, malaise, and/or fever and maculopapular rash.

Phenytoin: Phenytoin plasma levels have been reported to be low in some patients receiving RETROVIR, while in one case a high level was documented. However, in a pharmacokinetic interaction study in which 12 HIV-positive volunteers received a single 300 mg phenytoin dose alone and during steady-state zidovudine conditions (200 mg every 4 hours), no change in phenytoin kinetics was observed. Although not designed to optimally assess the effect of phe-nytoin on zidovudine kinetics, a 30% decrease in oral zidovudine clearance was observed with phenytoin.

Methadone: In a pharmacokinetic study of nine HIV-positive patients receiving methadone-maintenance (30 to 90 mg daily) concurrent with 200 mg of RETROVIR every 4 hours, no changes were observed in the pharmacokinetics of methadone upon initiation of therapy with RETROVIR and after 14 days of treatment with RETROVIR. No adjustments in methadone-maintenance requirements were reported. For four patients, the mean zidovudine AUC was elevated two-fold, while for five patients, the value was equal to that of control patients. The exact mechanism and clinical significance of these data are unknown.

Fluconazole: The coadministration of fluconazole with RETROVIR has been reported to interfere with the oral clearance and metabolism of RETROVIR. In a pharmacokinetic interaction study in which 12 HIV-positive men received RETROVIR 200 mg every 8 hours alone and in combination with fluconazole 400 mg daily, fluconazole increased the zidovudine AUC (74%; range 28% to 173%) and the zidovudine half-life (128%; range -4% to 189%) at steady state.
The clinical significance of this interaction is unknown.

Atovaquone: Data from 14 HIV-infected volunteers who were given atovaquone tablets 750 mg every 12 hours with zidovudine 200 mg every 8 hours showed a 24% ± 12% decrease in zidovudine oral clearance, leading to a 35% ± 23% increase in plasma zidovudine AUC. The glucuronide metabolite:parent ratio decreased from a mean of 4.5 when zidovudine was administered alone to 3.1 when zidovudine was administered with atovaquone tablets. This effect is minor and would not be expected to produce clinically significant events. Zidovudine had no effect on atovaquone pharmacokinetics.

Valproic Acid: The concomitant administration of valproic acid 250 mg (n = 5) or 500 mg (n = 1) every 8 hours and zidovudine 100 mg orally every 8 hours for 4 days to six HIV-infected, asymptomatic male volunteers resulted in a 79% ± 61% (mean ± SD) increase in the plasma zidovudine AUC and a 22% ± 10% decrease in the plasma GZDV AUC as compared to the administration of zidovudine in the absence of valproic acid. The GZDV/zidovudine urinary excretion ratio decreased 58% ± 12%. Because no change in the zidovudine plasma half-life occurred, these results suggest that valproic acid may increase the oral bioavailability of zidovudine through inhibition of first-pass metabolism. Although the clinical significance of this interaction is unknown, patients should be monitored more closely for a possible increase in zidovudine-related adverse effects. The effect of zidovudine on the pharmacokinetics of valproic acid was not evaluated.

Other Nucleoside Analogues: Some experimental nucleoside analogues which are being evaluated in HIV-infected patients may affect RBC/WBC number or function and may increase the potential for hematologic toxicity of RETROVIR. Some experimental nucleoside analogues affecting DNA replication, such as ribavirin, antagonize the in vitro antiviral activity of RETROVIR against HIV and thus, concomitant use of such drugs should be avoided.

Other Agents: Some drugs such as trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, pyrimethamine, and acyclovir may be necessary for the management or prevention of opportunistic infections. In the placebo-controlled trial in patients with advanced HIV disease, increased toxicity was not detected with limited exposure to these drugs. However, there is one published report of neurotoxicity (profound lethargy) associated with concomitant use of RETROVIR and acyclovir. Preliminary data from a drug interaction study (n=10) suggest that coadministration of 200 mg RETROVIR and 600 mg rifampin decreases the area under the plasma concentration curve by an average of 48% ± 34%. However, the effect of once daily dosing of rifampin on multiple daily doses of RETROVIR is unknown.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg/day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg/day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg/day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg/day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg/day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five non-metastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), non-metastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans. At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately 3 times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

No evidence of mutagenicity (with or without metabolic activation) was observed in the Ames *Salmonella* mutagenicity assay at concentrations up to 10 µg per plate, which was the maximum concentration that could be tested because of the antimicrobial activity of zidovudine against the *Salmonella* species. In a mutagenicity assay conducted in L5178Y/TK+/- mouse lymphoma cells, zidovudine was weakly mutagenic in the absence of metabolic activation only at the highest concentrations tested (4000 and 5000 µg/mL). In the presence of metabolic activation, the drug was weakly mutagenic at concentrations of 1000 µg/mL and higher. In an in vitro mammalian cell transformation assay, zidovudine was positive at concentrations of 0.5 µg/mL and higher. In an in vitro cytogenetic study performed in cultured human lymphocytes, zidovudine induced dose-related structural chromosomal abnormalities at concentrations of 3 µg/mL and higher. No such effects were noted at the two lowest concentrations tested, 0.3 and 1 µg/mL. In an in vivo cytogenetic study in rats given a single intravenous injection of zidovudine at doses of 37.5 to 300 mg/kg, there were no treatment-related structural or numerical chromosomal alterations in spite of plasma levels that were as high as 453 µg/mL 5 minutes after dosing.

In two in vivo micronucleus studies (designed to measure chromosome breakage or mitotic spindle apparatus damage) in male mice, oral doses of zidovudine 100 to 1000 mg/kg/day administered once daily for approximately 4 weeks induced dose-related increases in micronucleated erythrocytes. Similar results were also seen after 4 or 7 days of dosing at 500 mg/kg/day in rats and mice.

In a study involving 11 AIDS patients, it was reported that the seven patients who were receiving RETROVIR (1200 mg/day) as their only medication for 4 weeks to 7 months showed a chromosome breakage frequency of 8.29 ± 2.65 breaks per 100 peripheral lymphocytes. This was significantly ($P<0.05$) higher than the incidence of 0.5 ± 0.29 breaks per 100 cells that was observed in the four AIDS patients who had not received RETROVIR.

No effect on male or female fertility (judged by conception rates) was seen in rats given zidovudine orally at doses up to 450 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C. Oral teratology studies in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg/day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo/fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg/day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg/day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an in vitro experiment with fertilized mouse oocytes, zidovudine exposure resulted in a dose-dependent reduction in blastocyst formation. In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg/day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. (Estimated area-under-the-curve [AUC] in rats at this dose level was 300-times the daily AUC in humans given 600 mg per day.) No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg/day or less.

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial was conducted in HIV-infected pregnant women to determine the utility of RETROVIR for the prevention of maternal-fetal HIV-transmission (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Description of Clinical Studies section of full prescribing information). Congenital abnormalities occurred with similar frequency between infants born to mothers who received RETROVIR and infants born to mothers who received placebo. Abnormalities were either problems in embryogenesis (prior to 14 weeks) or were recognized on ultrasound before or immediately after initiation of study drug.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to RETROVIR, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 722-9292, ext. 58465.

Nursing Mothers: The U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises HIV-infected women not to breast-feed to avoid postnatal transmission of HIV to a child who may not yet be infected.

It is not known whether zidovudine is excreted in human milk or whether RETROVIR reduces the potential for transmission of HIV in breast milk. Lactating mice administered zidovudine (200 mg/kg intraperitoneally) were found to have milk concentrations of zidovudine five times the corresponding serum zidovudine concentration. Milk concentrations of zidovudine declined at a slower rate than serum zidovudine concentrations.

Pediatric Use: See INDICATIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Monotherapy: ***Adults:*** The frequency and severity of adverse events associated with the use of RETROVIR in adults are greater in patients with more advanced infection at the time of initiation of therapy. The following table summarizes the relative incidence of hematologic adverse events observed in clinical studies by severity of HIV disease present at the start of treatment.

Table 1

Stage of Disease	RETROVIR Daily Dose* (mg)	Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm³)	Anemia (Hgb <8.0 g/dL)
Asymptomatic ACTG 019[3]	500	1.8%[†]	1.1%[†]
Early HIV Disease (CD4 >200 cells/mm³) ACTG 016[4]	1200	4%	4%
Advanced HIV Disease (CD4 >200 cells/mm³) BW 02[1]	1500	10%[†]	3%[†‡]
(CD4 ≤ 200 cells/mm³) ACTG 002[20]	600	37%	29%
BW 02[1]	1500	47%	29%[†]

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.
† Not statistically significant compared to placebo.
‡ Anemia = Hgb <7.5 g/dL.

The anemia reported in patients with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR appeared to be the result of impaired erythrocyte maturation as evidenced by macrocytosis while on drug. Although mean platelet counts in patients receiving RETROVIR were significantly increased compared to mean baseline values, thrombocytopenia did occur in some of these patients with advanced disease.[4] Twelve percent of patients receiving RETROVIR compared to 5% of patients receiving placebo had >50% decreases from baseline platelet count. Mild drug-associated elevations in total bilirubin levels have been reported as an uncommon occurrence in patients treated for asymptomatic HIV infection.

The HIV-infected adults participating in these clinical trials often had baseline symptoms and signs of HIV disease and/or experienced adverse events at some time during study. It was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with administration of RETROVIR from underlying signs of HIV disease or intercurrent illnesses. The following table summarizes clinical adverse events or symptoms which occurred in at least 5% of all patients with advanced HIV disease treated with 1500 mg/day of RETROVIR in the original placebo-controlled study.[1] Of the items

listed in the table, only severe headache, nausea, insomnia, and myalgia were reported at a significantly greater rate in patients receiving Retrovir.

Table 2
Percentage (%) of Patients with Clinical Events in Advanced HIV Disease (BW 02)

Adverse Event	RETROVIR 1500 mg/day* (n=144) %	Placebo (n=137) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	19	18
Diaphoresis	5	4
Fever	16	12
Headache	42	37
Malaise	8	7
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Anorexia	11	8
Diarrhea	12	18
Dyspepsia	5	4
GI Pain	20	19
Nausea	46	18
Vomiting	6	3
MUSCULOSKELETAL		
Myalgia	8	2
NERVOUS		
Dizziness	6	4
Insomnia	5	1
Paresthesia	6	3
Somnolence	8	9
RESPIRATORY		
Dyspnea	5	3
SKIN		
Rash	17	15
SPECIAL SENSES		
Taste Perversion	5	8

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

All events of a severe or life-threatening nature were monitored for adults in the placebo-controlled studies in early HIV disease and asymptomatic HIV infection. Data concerning the occurrence of additional signs or symptoms were also collected. No distinction was made in reporting events between those possibly associated with the administration of the study medication and those due to the underlying disease. The following tables summarize all those events reported at a statistically significant greater incidence for patients receiving RETROVIR in these studies:

Table 3
Percentage (%) of Patients with Adverse Events in Early HIV Disease (ACTG 016)

Adverse Event	RETROVIR 1200 mg/day* (n=361) %	Placebo (n=352) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	69	62
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Dyspepsia	6	1
Nausea	61	41
Vomiting	25	13

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

Table 4
Percentage (%) of Patients with Adverse Events* in Asymptomatic HIV Infection (ACTG 019)

Adverse Event	RETROVIR 500 mg/day* (n=453) %	Placebo (n=428) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	8.6[†]	5.8
Headache	62.5	52.6
Malaise	53.2	44.9
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Anorexia	20.1	10.5
Constipation	6.4[†]	3.5
Nausea	51.4	29.9
Vomiting	17.2	9.8
NERVOUS		
Dizziness	17.9[†]	15.2

* Reported in ≥5% of study population.
† Not statistically significant versus placebo.

Several serious adverse events have been reported with the use of RETROVIR in clinical practice. Myopathy and myositis with pathological changes, similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of RETROVIR. Reports of hepatomegaly with steatosis, hepatitis, pancreatitis, lactic acidosis, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis in one patient), hyperbilirubinemia, vasculitis, and seizures have been rare. These adverse events, except for sensitization, have also been associated with HIV disease. A single case of macular edema has been reported with the use of RETROVIR.

Additional adverse events reported in clinical trials at a rate not significantly different from placebo are listed below. Selected events from post-marketing clinical experience with RETROVIR are also included. Many of these events may also occur as part of HIV disease. The clinical significance of the association between treatment with RETROVIR and these events is unknown.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, back pain, body odor, chest pain, chills, edema of the lip, fever, flu syndrome, hyperalgesia.
Cardiovascular: syncope, vasodilation.
Gastrointestinal: bleeding gums, constipation, diarrhea, dysphagia, edema of the tongue, eructation, flatulence, mouth ulcer, rectal hemorrhage.
Hemic and Lymphatic: lymphadenopathy.
Musculoskeletal: arthralgia, muscle spasm, tremor, twitch.
Nervous: anxiety, confusion, depression, dizziness, emotional lability, loss of mental acuity, nervousness, paresthesia, somnolence, vertigo.
Respiratory: cough, dyspnea, epistaxis, hoarseness, pharyngitis, rhinitis, sinusitis.
Skin: acne, changes in skin and nail pigmentation, pruritus, rash, sweat, urticaria.
Special senses: amblyopia, hearing loss, photophobia, taste perversion.
Urogenital: dysuria, polyuria, urinary frequency, urinary hesitancy.

Pediatrics: Anemia and granulocytopenia among children with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR occurred with similar incidence to that reported for adults with AIDS or advanced ARC (see above). Management of neutropenia and anemia included, in some cases, dose modification and/or blood product transfusions. In the open-label studies, 17% had their dose modified (generally a reduction in dose by 30%) due to anemia and 25% had their dose modified (temporary discontinuation or dose reduction by 30%) for neutropenia. Four children had RETROVIR permanently discontinued for neutropenia. The following table summarizes the occurrence of anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL) and granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm³) among 124 children receiving RETROVIR for a mean of 267 days (range 3 to 855 days):

Table 5

	Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm³)		Anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL)	
	n	%	n	%
Advanced Pediatric HIV Disease (n=124)	48	39	28*	23

* Twenty-two children received one or more transfusions due to a decline in hemoglobin to <7.5 g/dL; an additional 15 children were transfused for hemoglobin levels >7.5 g/dL. Fifty-nine percent of the patients transfused had a pre-study history of anemia or transfusion requirement.

Macrocytosis was observed among the majority of children enrolled in the studies.

In the open-label studies involving 124 children, 16 clinical adverse events were reported by 24 children. No event was reported by more than 5.6% of the study populations. Due to the open-label design of the studies, it was difficult to determine possible events related to the use of RETROVIR versus disease-related events. Therefore, all clinical events reported as associated with therapy with RETROVIR or of unknown relationship to therapy with RETROVIR are presented in the following table:

Table 6
Percentage (%) of Pediatric Patients with Clinical Events in Open-Label Studies

Adverse Event	n	%
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Fever	4	3.2
Phlebitis*/Bacteremia	2	1.6
Headache	2	1.6
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Nausea	1	0.8
Vomiting	6	4.8
Abdominal Pain	4	3.2
Diarrhea	1	0.8
Weight Loss	1	0.8
NERVOUS		
Insomnia	3	2.4
Nervousness/Irritability	2	1.6
Decreased Reflexes	7	5.6
Seizure	1	0.8
CARDIOVASCULAR		
Left Ventricular Dilation	1	0.8
Cardiomyopathy	1	0.8
S_3 Gallop	1	0.8
Congestive Heart Failure	1	0.8
Generalized Edema	1	0.8
ECG Abnormality	3	2.4
UROGENITAL		
Hematuria/Viral Cystitis	1	0.8

* Peripheral vein I.V. catheter site.

The clinical adverse events reported among adult recipients of RETROVIR may also occur in children.

Use for the Prevention of Maternal-Fetal Transmission of HIV: In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in HIV-infected women and their infants conducted to determine the utility of RETROVIR for the prevention of maternal-fetal HIV transmission, RETROVIR Syrup at 2 mg/kg was administered every 6 hours for 6 weeks to infants beginning within 12 hours after birth. The most commonly reported adverse experiences were anemia (hemoglobin <9.0 g/dL) and neutropenia (<1000 cells/mm³). Anemia occurred in 22% of the infants who received RETROVIR and in 12% of the infants who received placebo. The mean difference in hemoglobin values was less than 1.0 g/dL for infants receiving RETROVIR compared to infants receiving placebo. No infants with anemia required transfusion and all hemoglobin values spontaneously returned to normal within 6 weeks after completion of therapy with RETROVIR. Neutropenia was reported with similar frequency in the group that received RETROVIR (21%) and in the group that received placebo (27%). The long-term consequences of *in utero* and infant exposure to RETROVIR are unknown.

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The safety profile of combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine reflects the individual safety profile of each component. The complete prescribing information for zalcitabine should be consulted before combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine is initiated.

OVERDOSAGE: Cases of acute overdoses in both children and adults have been reported with doses up to 50 grams. None were fatal. The only consistent finding in these cases of overdose was spontaneous or induced nausea and vomiting. Hematologic changes were transient and not severe. Some patients experienced nonspecific CNS symptoms such as headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, and confusion. One report of a grand mal seizure possibly attributable to RETROVIR occurred in a 35-year-old male 3 hours after ingesting 36 grams of RETROVIR. No other cause could be identified. All patients recovered without permanent sequelae. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, G-ZDV, is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Monotherapy: ***Adults:*** For adults with symptomatic HIV infection, including AIDS, the recommended oral dose is 100 mg (one 100 mg capsule or 2 teaspoonfuls [10 mL] syrup) every 4 hours (600 mg total daily dose). The effectiveness of this dose compared to higher dosing regimens in improving the neurologic dysfunction associated with HIV disease is unknown. A small randomized study found a greater effect of higher doses of RETROVIR on improvement of neurological symptoms in patients with pre-existing neurological disease.

For asymptomatic HIV infection, the recommended dose for adults is 100 mg administered orally every 4 hours while awake (500 mg/day).

Pediatrics: The recommended dose in children 3 months to 12 years of age is 180 mg/m² every 6 hours (720 mg/m² per day), not to exceed 200 mg every 6 hours.

Maternal-Fetal HIV Transmission: The recommended dosing regimen for administration to pregnant women (>14 weeks of pregnancy) and their newborn infants is:

Maternal Dosing: 100 mg orally five times per day until the start of labor. During labor and delivery, intravenous RETROVIR should be administered at 2 mg/kg (total body weight) over 1 hour followed by a continuous intravenous infusion of 1 mg/kg/h (total body weight) until clamping of the umbilical cord.

Infant Dosing: 2 mg/kg orally every 6 hours starting within 12 hours after birth and continuing through 6 weeks of age. Infants unable to receive oral dosing may be administered RETROVIR intravenously at 1.5 mg/kg, infused over 30 minutes, every 6 hours. (See PRECAUTIONS if hepatic disease or renal insufficiency is present.)

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The recommended dosage regimen consists of RETROVIR 200 mg taken orally with zalcitabine 0.75 mg every 8 hours.

Monitoring of Patients: Hematologic toxicities appear to be related to pretreatment bone marrow reserve and to dose and duration of therapy. In patients with poor bone marrow reserve, particularly in patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease, frequent monitoring of hematologic indices is recommended to detect serious anemia or granulocytopenia (see WARNINGS). In patients who experience hematologic toxicity, reduction in hemoglobin may occur as early as 2 to 4 weeks, and granulocytopenia usually occurs after 6 to 8 weeks.

Dose Adjustment: Significant anemia (hemoglobin of <7.5 g/dL or reduction of >25% of baseline) and/or significant granulocytopenia (granulocyte count of <750 cells/mm³ or reduction of >50% from baseline) may require a dose interruption until evidence of marrow recovery is observed (see WARNINGS). For less severe anemia or granulocytopenia, a reduction in daily dose may be adequate. In patients who develop significant anemia, dose modification does not necessarily eliminate the need for transfusion. If marrow recovery occurs following dose modification, gradual increases in dose may be appropriate depending on hematologic indices and patient tolerance.

In end-stage renal disease patients maintained on hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, recommended dosing is 100 mg every 6 to 8 hours (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics section of full prescribing information).

There are insufficient data to recommend dose adjustment of RETROVIR in patients with impaired hepatic function.

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U.S. Patent Nos. 4818538 and 4828838 (Product Patents); 4724232, 4833130, and 4837208 (Use Patents)

June 1995 587069

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Keith Bo

He was born in St. Louis, Missouri 31 years ago, where he lived for 15 years be- fore attending high school in Florida. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College, where he was editor-in-chief of The Dartmouth daily newspaper, the oldest college newspaper in America, and served as president of the corporation that owns the paper.

He also attended Harvard Law. It was during those Ivy league days that he came out of the closet and became open about his homosexuality.

After receiving his law degree, he was offered a lucrative position with a prestigious San Francisco firm but turned it down to work on the presidential campaign of an Arkansas Governor.

This landed him on the White House staff where he worked extensively on African-American and gay and lesbian outreach efforts. He also helped to organize and participate in the first meeting between gay and lesbian leaders and a President of the United States.

He drafted President Clinton's statement on the 1993 Gay & Lesbian March on Washington and the President's letter opposing anti-gay ballot initiatives circulating in several states.

His father is a magazine publisher in Chicago and his mother works for the federal government in Texas.

"My mother, throughout my life, told me one thing," he remembers, "Don't let anybody tell you what to do. Live your own life. My father always maintained an independence through owning his own businesses. I have that independent strand.

"When I was a teenager I read the Bible and Malcolm. They were two of the most influential pieces of reading for me because The Bible taught me the message of love and liberation and Malcolm X taught me the lesson of pride and liberation. Liberation was the common theme of both of them."

And Liberation is indeed a concern always constant with community and political activist Keith Boykin, now the newly appointed Executive Director of The National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum.

Maintaining offices in Washington D.C. and Los Angeles, California, Boykin, who recently completed the nonfiction book, One More River to Cross: Black & Gay in America (Doubleday/Anchor 1996), wants to encourage real strength through real unity, the coming together of all the factions within and who effect the Black gay and lesbian community, a dialogue between the different communities, and an assertiveness borne out of self-pride and self-reliance.

The infusion of new blood into one of our community's more senior organizations is much-needed. Mr. Boykin, graciously articulate and in possession of scholarly good-looks and a guarded, east coast charm that may prove to serve him well, seems to be new blood.

Now let's just hope the transfusion takes.

STANLEY BENNETT CLAY: There's a new national focus for the Forum.

KEITH BOYKIN: At the September board meeting we decided to change and become the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum. The new structure includes 25 board members from across the nation.

The decision was made to make the organization a national voice for African American lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgenders, aggressively working for individuals and working as a resource network for organizations.

SBC: Aside from the obvious change--becoming a national organization-- what specifically is the new agenda.

KB: We have a constructive and a destructive mission. Constructively our goal is to build bridges between the various communities out there--the Black community, the gay and lesbian community, the women's community. We feel that we're better positioned for that, not just as an organization but as individuals.

To do this community bridge-building, we have a destructive mission, that is, to destroy the walls of racism and sexism and homophobia that divide people in our community, that attempt to separate African American lesbians and gay men from the rest of the Black community and the gay community.

SBC: Can you be more specific on the racism issue. We're dealing with a Black organization in the Black community, so where in the Black community are you talking about the destruction of the walls of racism?

KB: Our work is not limited to what we do in the Black community, but it's a reaching out to all the various communities, including the gay and lesbian community where we know that there is a good deal of racism.

Just because people are gay or lesbian does not mean that they don't harbor racial biases. There is racism in the white gay community just as there is homophobia in the Black community. Our mission, our goal is to oppose racism, sexism and homophobia wherever it may exist, even in our own communities. We all know of examples of people who have, in the past and still today, have denied entry into various night clubs and establishments or asked to present multiple forms of identification because of their race. This is still going on in the gay and lesbian supposedly 'enlightened' community. So it is important for us to take that on, to challenge that.

A few weeks ago there was an incident where the leaders of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation put out a press release comparing the Million Man March to the 1993 Gay and Lesbian March on Washington. In that release they stated that they were disappointed with the coverage given the Million Man March because it was disproportionate compared to the coverage given the Gay and Lesbian March. Now there are a lot of problems with that analysis. You can't just compare the number of stories because that's like comparing apples and oranges. All those stories about the Million Man March were not necessarily positive. Many of the stories were critical of Mr. Farrakahn and many of the other organizers. But the idea of pitting ourselves against each other--the Black community and the gay and lesbian community--is wrong. And that's what that press release was doing; dividing those communities and failing to recognize that there are people who are a part of both of those communities.

I don't know if I would call that [press release] racism, but it certainly represents a racial insensitivity that exist in the white gay community.

We've been involved in--and will continue to be involved in--sensitizing people, educating them, teaching them more about who we are.

In regards to the Million Man March, we were concerned about some homophobia coming out of the Black community. People like Mr. Farrakhan have made comments aside from his sexist and anti-Semitic comments that were, quite frankly, homophobic. And we thought

it was important as an openly gay and lesbian contingent to be there, to be visible, open and proud of who we are.

SBC: BGLLF, over the years, has been looked upon by some in the Black gay and lesbian community as an NAACP kind of organization.

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE TO THE BLACK FORUM

BGLLF Gets a New Executive Director and a New National Focus

BY STANLEY BENNETT CL

KB: Is that good or bad?

SBC: Well, it's almost 1996. You tell me. There is the perception that there is a need for Black gays and lesbians to find a place in the white gay community. Integration as opposed to self-reliance.

KB: I believe, as others have said, that nobody can free us but ourselves. We have an obligation as Black lesbians and gay men to be out on the front lines in all of our communities. That means we have to visible. We can't just hide in our closets anymore and expect other people to fight the fight for us.

There are lots of issues that we need to be facing in our own communities, challenging homophobia in the Black community. Now I want to say that in the context of also saying I don't think African Americans are any more homophobic as a community or population than anyone else. In fact, most of the polling that I have seen suggests that Black people are less homophobic than white people. Black politicians and elected office holders are far more likely to be supportive of gay and lesbian rights than their white counterparts.

Now, having made that claim and distinction, I think that we need to be out there aggressively challenging what goes on in the Black church. We need to be out there challenging what goes on in our own families, among our friends and in the work place. There are enough examples of homophobia in the Black community to keep us quite busy for a long time. We can complain about white gay and lesbian people talking about these issues, but that does not exculpate us from the responsibility of being active ourselves. We need to be attacking those issues in our community.

I could never understand why, on some issues, we are not more aggressive. Some people are, but I don't think that we as a Black gay and lesbian community are as aggressive in dealing with the Black church as we should be. And what happens is that you get people like the Rev. Lou Sheldon, an ultra conservative white minister from the radical right, coming into our community and telling people in the Black church how to deal with homosexuality.

We don't need that. We don't respect that. We have plenty of homosexuals in our churches, in the pulpits, in the choirs and everywhere else. We need to start a dialogue ourselves, honestly and openly. We need to ask ourselves, as Black lesbians and gay men, to challenge the preachers and challenge the deacons and others who engage in homophobia in our churches. We need to put an end to that.

AIDS is the leading cause of death for African American men between the ages of 25 and 44. And there are so many churches in our community that don't even acknowledge that this is an issue for our community. 53% of all babies with AIDS are African American. 2/3 of all the people world-wide infected with the virus are of African decent.

So there is a racial component to this that our churches are very myopically ignoring. And when I ask some church leaders 'why aren't you doing more about AIDS?' they have said to me 'well, I don't know if we're doing enough about homelessness, or I don't know if we're doing enough about violence or drugs in the community.' But that's no excuse. Just because there are a lot of problems out there is no excuse to deal with none of those problems. And that's essentially what they're saying.

Can you imagine Martin Luther King saying there are too many problems out there for us to deal with any of them? If he knew that today Black church leaders were turning their backs on African American gays and lesbians, he'd turn over in his grave.

SBC: Do you think that part of the problem may be that African American gays and lesbians are turning their back on the Black community?

KB: I think that happens sometimes. I think that often happens as a reaction to the community turning it's backs on us.

SBC: Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

KB: It's sort of a 'chicken and egg' question. But to me I can see very clearly what came first. If you look at the Million Man March, for an example. Many African American gay men chose not to participate in the march because they felt that they would not be welcomed. What they're saying is not that they're turning their backs on the Black community, but some of the Black community's leadership has already turned their backs on them, and until there is some sort of affirmative effort to embrace or welcome them, then they are obviously not going to feel at home. Would you feel at home in the company of a man who says that you are a being that has no right to exist, or that we need to eliminate the factors that cause you to exist?

SBC: But are we to walk away from that, as we tend to do, sometimes giving the perception that our retreat from the Black community makes our Black gay and lesbian leadership vulnerable puppets of the white gay community? And that is the perception of, not only many community-based African American homosexuals, but also of the African American community itself. As we look at so many of our high-profile black homosexual leaders, we can only go back to the Black community and say 'well, what can we say? You're not so wrong'.

KB: In terms of puppetry, the 'so-called' leaders in our Black community who espoused homophobia and hatred of lesbians, homosexual men, bisexuals and transgender people are the real puppets. They're puppets of the white, Eurocentric culture. These are people who don't understand that homosexuality has existed in all cultures, including the African culture, because they are puppets of the white community.

SBC: So how do we get rid of the puppets on both sides? How do we get rid of the puppets in the homophobic Black community and how do we get rid of the puppets that have been deemed as the so-called 'leaders' of the Black gay movement.

KB: Well, I'm not sure what you mean by 'get rid of', but I don't think that it's my job or this organization's role to get rid of anyone. I think it's our role to educate people so that we can see who we should be working with and who we should not. I think that part of what we need to do is to recognize the leadership in all of us. That means we have to empower ourselves, we have to take on the challenge, to take on the people who are puppets in our community. We have to empower ourselves enough to be proud of who we are and to say who we are in our communities.

SBC: So what are some of the **empowering tactics that will be used by the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum?**

KB: Visibility is an extremely important empowering tool for gay and lesbian people. For African American gays and lesbians it's even more important because the larger white gay and lesbian community often tends to ignore us or to ostracize us.

Our presence at the Million Man March, for example, was one effort to be visible and to educate our [Black] community and to empower those people that were there. We walked through the sea of brothers there and it parted. They were so impressed, or intimidated, or whatever, by us that there was no overt homophobia directed at us. That was a strong message of empowerment for all of us who participated in that contingent.

And we will continue to do this because the lesson of that experience, and other experiences, is that when we have the courage to be honest about who we are, and to say who we are in our communities, the Black community not only accepts us, but respects us more.

So we, as an organization, will be doing that at other events. We'll be at the NAACP Convention, the SCLC Convention, The Black Family Reunions, The Black Expos, whenever there is a gathering of African American people, you will know that there are African American lesbians and gay men, bisexuals and transgenders as part of that gathering. We will no longer be ignored or excluded.

SBC: Are there any militant factions of BGLLF?

KB: What do you mean by militant?

SBC: Achievement by any means necessary.

KB: That's a phrase that's often bandied about with no clarity and there's a huge amount of ambiguity.

SBC: Whatever it takes to get it done. If it means kicking some ass. If certain things fail, such as meeting with people and trying to make them understand things in a Martin Luther King way, thus leading to the tactics of, say, the Black Panthers and the earlier Malcolm; will these sort of situations play a part in the leadership and direction of the BGLLF?

KB: Well, let me tell you a little bit about my personal experiences. I've been an activist for many years in many different capacities. I worked in the divestment movement in college, I worked on the diversity issue in law school. I was one of 11 students at Harvard who sued the University for discriminating against people of color and women and gays and lesbians in hiring. I led protest in school and shut down the administration building.

People often ask me with relation to what I'm doing now, do I believe in militancy? Am I a militant homosexual? And I proudly claim that title. I am a militant homosexual, if that what it means. When AIDS is the leading cause of death for African American men between the ages of 25 and 44 you're damn right I'm a militant homosexual. When gay teenagers are 3 times more likely to commit suicide than non-gay teenagers, of course I'm a militant homosexual. When the simplest expression of affection toward one another is demonized as somehow flaunting our sexuality, of course I'm a militant homosexual.

If that means that we have to aggressively go out and challenge people in a non-'King'-ean way, then I am a militant homosexual. Malcolm X is one of my heroes. Not just because of his views on 'by any means necessary', but because of his understanding of his own power, his evolution as a leader, as a thinker. Malcolm X of 1965 was nothing like Malcolm X of 1960.

SBC: Do you see a time in the near future when we can walk openly in our own community hand in hand as lovers, as companions, as family units?

KB: There is a notion in philosophy called transfigurative politics. That essentially means if you want something to be, you make it so. You transform the society by being it, by doing it, and it becomes so. We have to do that in our community.

Of course I perceive that time when we'll be able to walk down the street without trouble, but to make that happen we have to do it. We have to push ourselves, we have to challenge ourselves. We have to decide that we want this society more than we are afraid of this society. That's what makes change occur.

People say that courage has something to do with acting without concern or fear. I don't think that

makes any sense. What real courage is is knowing the concern and knowing the fear and acting in spite of it. We have to be involved in that sort of revolutionary thinking and revolutionary activity.

I don't think that it's easy. I don't think that it's going to happen overnight, but we have to have the vision to see that it can only happen if we start to make it happen, and that it will never happen if we sit around and debate it and intellectualize it so much. We just have to do it.

When you're walking down the street and you want to hold your lover's hand, then hold your lover's hand. See what happens. If you want to kiss your partner, kiss your partner. See what happens. If you want to just answer the question honestly when someone asks who you are, what your sexual orientation is, answer it honestly. See what happens, but the more we fear discussing these things and fear opening up the dialogue, the longer we perpetuate the conspiracy of silence.

SBC: Aside from the other philosophical chains that have been put upon us by 'the church', an incredible amount of homophobia has come forth and brazenly manifested itself there. In your opinion, how do we deal with this challenge?

KB: Sojourner Truth, in her 'I, Woman' speech says, and I quote: 'You say woman can't have as much rights as man because Christ weren't a woman. Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman. Man had nothing to do with it.'

She was making the point that God created Christ and Mary, a woman, gave birth to Christ. There's no man involved in that. And yet, people use religion to lower the status of women. The Catholic Church said [recently] that women cannot be priest, and that is the infallible doctrine of God.

We have to understand that the message of spirituality does not mean that we ignore our minds. We have to think for ourselves. We cannot invite anybody else, or any organization or any book to teach us how to think.

I consider myself a Christian, not because I agree with everything that some Christian fundamentalist minister says. I have my own relationship with God, my own relationship with spirituality. I don't need anyone else to divine that for me. We all have to reach that ourselves. We don't need a church necessarily to make a connection with God or that Higher Power. We can do that by looking inside ourselves. Many of us are not at that point.

When the Pharisees asked Jesus what was the most important commandment, Jesus smiled and said 'you should love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and all thy soul and all thy mind.'

'Mind' is a part of what Jesus is telling them. And the second commandment is that 'you should love thy neighbor as thyself.' And he said 'on these two commandments you should hang all the laws and the prophets.'

So when a prophet comes to you in any costume as a minister or a religious leader and tells you not to think, and to demonize other people, or to hate other people, you should think back to what Jesus said in those first two great commandments. We have to start questioning what people have told us over the course of the years and to think for ourselves and to open up our hearts and to open up our minds and open up our eyes, see what's out there, look next to you in the pews and the churches and ask yourself if these are the people, these gay men and lesbians who populate many of our Black churches, if these are the people being demonized by the minister who is preaching nonsense from the pulpit.

When you look at statistics that show that HIV infection is actually declining in some cities, for example in Washington D.C. where I live, by something like 14%, 13%, and yet, it's increasing by 83% among Black gay men, that speaks volumes regarding the differences in our attitudes and our responses to this disease, and part of the reason, but not the only reason, that we're not responding is because we listen to ministers [who are] homophobic, often homosexuals themselves, homophobic homosexuals, who teach us we are less worthy than others of the forgiveness of God, of the love of God, of the compassion of God. And we start hating ourselves. We start engaging in risky behavior. We don't think that we're worthy of having our lives saved, or we believe that our lives aren't going to be saved anyway.

There is a whole complex, structural, philosophic dynamic in play which is largely, but not exclusively, perpetrated by some, but not all, Black churches.

We also have a fear in our Black gay and lesbian community of discussing these issues openly and honestly. We don't often enough, I think, talk about the need to discourage certain unsafe behavior, we don't talk enough about AIDS. We'll talk about condoms generally, we'll talk about the need to prevent the spread of the virus, we'll talk about the need for greater funding, but how many of us, and how often do we talk to our friends and our lovers and ask them about their sexual practices, asking if they are engaging in unsafe sex, explaining what that means and talk to them about how to use a condom and when you should use a condom, anal penetration, and letting them know that a condom is not fool-proof, and discussing the values and advantages and disadvantages of certain types of sex. We don't really get into these discussions often enough, I think.

This is not meant to take indictment of everybody in our community because there are many people out there who are doing just this. But we have a great deal of sexphobia and eroticphobia in the Black gay and lesbian community, much of which is internalized in the larger communities that we're a part of, that prevents us from even engaging in the basic level discussions that need to go on to stop the spread of this disease.

SBC: With the Leadership Forum's 9th annual conference which will be held this year in Dallas what will be the statement you'll be making? What kind of dialoging will be going on?

KB: The key word is 'dialogue', because I don't think that it's the job of this organization to preach to everyone in the sense of telling them that this is the only option, this is the only way.

In Dallas I expect discussion on many different ideas and options from people from across the country. Some people who are more conservative, some people who are more progressive, some who believe in a nationalist agenda, separating ourselves from other communities, and some who believe in an integrationist agenda. We'll find some who will endorse what I call militant tactics, and other who'll support more traditional civil rights tactics. There's a wide variety of perspectives that will come there.

There is some debate that will go on there. Very healthy debate. We should not fear it. We'll see that there will be debate about the focus of our movement and the focus of the organizations that represent the movement. Should we be a movement that embraces bisexuals and transgender people? This is a debate that, I think, has just started in our community and needs to be engaged in by all of us honestly and openly.

How can we make our communities and organizations more supportive of one another and less divisive, stop all the cat-fighting and the back-stabbing and all the pettiness that goes on, the organizations competing against the other organizations, committed to eliminating their competition? We have to be respectful of the diversity out there.

When I speak of the Forum, people have recently asked me what would I think if other organizations were created to serve the national Black gay and lesbian community, and my answer was 'Fine'.

I don't think this organization is the only answer. I'm very proud of what this organization is doing and what I want this organization to continue to do, but I think that we have to have an enlightening, educating, adult perspective so that we know that no one organization can serve everyone. We'll try to do whatever we can to serve as many people as we can.

If people want to push us in certain directions, they should try to push us in certain directions, if people have problems with some of the things that we've done in the past, they should bring those issues to the table, if they have suggestions on things we should be doing in the future, they should bring those issues to the table, because, ultimately, this organization belongs to all of us who choose to participate in it.

So what I'm asking is that we start to be very constructive in our dialogue, start to envision positive changes to make all of our organizations better, including this one.

SBC: I understand what you're saying that there's room for many organizations in our community, and that we should not be competitive, but cooperative, and I absolutely agree with that, however, certain organizations fit certain tastes and needs and agendas. For example, I go back to the point of what kind of organization would you call The National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum? Is it a nationalist organization or an integrationist organization?

KB: We haven't defined ourself as being a nationalist organization or an integrationist organization. I think there are elements of both philosophies that are important to us. We don't want to become so separatist that we have no connection with the Black community or the [larger] gay and lesbian community because, quite frankly, we are a part of those communities. It's different when you're talking about Black people vs. white people because you're Black, you're not white, unless you're multi-racial.

Usually separatism is easier to define, nationalism is easier to define. In our case we are talking about people who are a part of many different communities and who identify with many different communities, so to say that we are only going to be Black gay and lesbian people and we won't have anything to do with Black [straight] people and we won't have anything to do with [white] gay people, I think, is a mistake.

On the other hand, to say that we have to be beholden to the [larger] gay and lesbian community or the Black community at large, I think, is also a mistake. We have to have our own agenda, we have to be about raising our issues in all of our different communities.

SBC: There are Black gays and lesbians and there are white gays and lesbians just like there are Black Americans and white Americans. There is a very big difference. There are separate agendas.

KB: When we met with the members of The Congressional Black Caucus in September, we told them that we have an agenda. Our agenda will sometimes overlap with the larger gay and lesbian agenda. Sometimes it will not. You want to know what Black gay and lesbian people think, you can't talk to white gay and lesbian organizations.

As I said before, it's a mistake to be so identified with the larger gay and lesbian community that we don't recognize our differences. It's also a mistake to be so removed from the gay and lesbian community that we don't recognize our similarities.

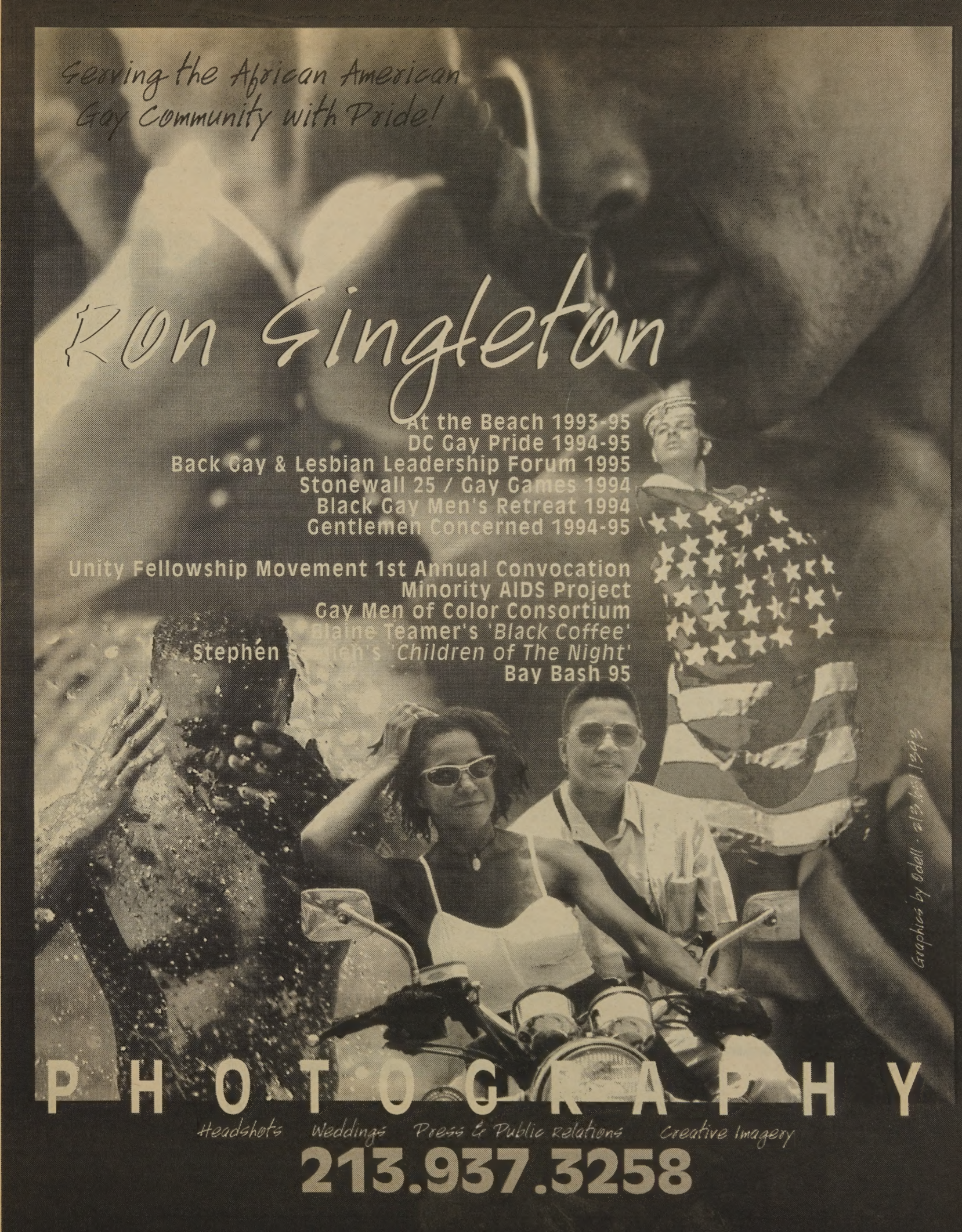
SBC: How is the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum directed?

KB: By a national board of 25. Structurally, The Forum is a representative organization in the sense that all of us [on the board] are charged with the responsibility of leading the organization, but ideas from anyone are accepted very democratically.

Procedurally, if someone wants to join the organization, simply write to us and tell us you want to be a member. The membership fee is $35 but we have not in the past excluded individuals from membership based on an inability to pay, and we will not be excluding those individuals in the future.

We have to be open to everyone, to anyone without being so consumed by process.

The Forum will hold it's 9th Annual Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference February 15-19 in Dallas, Texas. For details regarding conference seminars, workshops, guest speakers, banquet, hotel and travel reservations, contact The Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum/ 1219 South La Brea Avenue/ Los Angeles, California 90019/ 213.964.7820.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Incognito: VIBES ACROSS THE WATER

by Gregory Victorianne, New England Correspondent

"I realized I don't have to be doing fusion music. Fuck that, there's other things, man. When you wanna write a song, write it direct, get away from solos. I don't want no vehicle for musicians to be masturbating over...this album [100 and Rising] isn't about that," proudly states Brit's fuzakologist [fusion + muzik] Sir Jean Paul Maunick aka Bluey of INCOGNITO. "I want personality on my record, leave space for the singer, make sure the rhythm is kickin' where it needs to be and just guide everybody and have a fucking great time doing it!"

A friendly transatlantic call from Trident Studios in West London where Bluey & Co. is wrapping up productions on George Benson's comeback album Nomad and adding his touches to the cocktail mixes of Good Love, a guaranteed dance floor filler. Bluey doesn't deliver theological or trendy conversation about personal experiences or how phat INCOGNITO music is. Dialogue with Bluey over the past couple of years has left this writer with inspiration and a better awareness of the fuzak [fusion + muzak] guru mission of life. Where sooo many of today's five & dime musicians bark cesspool and sameness sliced with no originality or influences of their craft, Bluey has a long term plan. And it's about INCOGNITO.

When Inside Life dropped in '92, a platter fronted by dance vixen Jocelyn Brown wailing on Ronnie Laws/Side Effect's eternal classic Always There, which now serves as INCOGNITO'S theme song on tour, the smokey vocals of Linda Muriel on Metropolis and Can You Feel Me, sliced with the lush instrumentals Journey Into Sunlight and Gypsy, it created a buzz that was becoming contagious. Sophomore Tribes, Scribes & Vibes, a platter of Gypsy Soul and Afro-Cuban, features a voice from heaven, Maysa Leak, who once niced up Stevie Wonder as a Wonderlove backin' vocalist.

The funky workout Change, along with Don't You Worry 'Bout A Thing, with the man himself on harmonica, later slapped an injunction on the song after Maysa sung it with conviction. There were jazz friendly instrumentals [Magnetic Ocean, Colibri] and the inspirational L'Arc En Ciel De Miles became radio friendly rotation that created a demand for the first U.S. tour.

They jaywalked 8 shows in 10 nites, includin' a 3 nite stint in Detroit where they upstaged headliners The Yellowjackets and later at D.C.'s Blue's Alley where SBC's Chocolate City correspondent Mark F. Johnson was caught tapping his foot to some stone to the bone jazzy grooves with soulful melodies.

"The tour was brutal, but nothing unusual for INCOGNITO. It was of major importance that we were accepted in America. We believed we had something happenin' with a Brit angle and we took American music back to America and have been honest about it," stated Bluey.

Does Bluey actually believe that the American lack of a definitive image has proven a refreshing change for the nieces & nephews on our shores when INCOGNITO drops their disc or live shows? And has gained INCOGNITO greater acceptance than most American acts on the global tip?

"What the Americans have forgotten in the land that gave you Curtis Mayfield, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder; in the land that gave you Miles Davis and Gil Evans, is that the core is musicality which shines through. And our music will always shine. We're takin' American muzik back to America and have been really honesty about it."

Positively was released with greater magnitude and was more vocal oriented. The back ll back hits Deep Waters and Still A Friend Of Mine are still demonstrating greater endurance than the pink bunny with the drum. Jazz instrumentals became permanent radio fixtures and landed this masterpiece on top of the Contemporary Jazz Charts where it stayed for many weeks. Then came another worldwide tour including stops on the US downlow, Far East, The Continent, South America and down under where INCOGNITO is on the brink of commercial success.

"We were together for 18 months and the band, at that moment, lived for playing live. That's INCOGNITO in our moments of glory. We sold records and it allowed us to play more. We never set out to be commercially successful. But shit happens..."

Yes Bluey, shit does happen, and it stinks when success came your way. Rumors circulated that Maysa was unhappy while the band called it quits. It was called mutiny and, all of a sudden, another story of a British band had done history. Granted, the country delivered the Average White Band, Hot Chocolate and Heatwave during the 70's. Loose Ends, Imagination, Central Line graced the airwaves in the 80's. The 90's gave muzik connoisseurs Galliano, BNH and Soul II Soul, who has kept on movin', but INCOGNITO was the talk of the universe. What waz up wit' dat?

To end the tabletop chatterin', the publicity guru of their label Verve/Mercury in the Big Apple returned all calls and quieted the misinformed reporters and supports. Maysa was not unhappy. She always had a desire to do solo projects and this was the opportunity. As a matter of fact, her debut on the GRP label features the man himself pluckin' on guitar and other sidekicks of the band. Secondly, the musicians of INCOGNITO were not signed to the label. Only Bluey. And it is only Bluey who is INCOGNITO.

The players were lured away for a global tour and fatter cheques by Basia, who wanted to improved her lifeless elevator sound with a bit of that free spirit over a groove vibe. Missy committed grand theft with the almighty US Dead President instead of the UK battered Queen Lizzie pound sterling.

"Man, it was awful. All of a sudden I was without a band, so I had to shift gears and take the next set to another level."

100 degrees and Rising has the enthusiasm of Earth, Wind & Fire and Herbie Hancock sliced with the strings of 80's Chic and the funkiness of Rufus.

The sharp string section and pungent funky guitar riffs, shimmering keyboards and churchy vocals make for a well balanced collection of songs that have become dance floor fillers—Everyday, I Hear Your Name and the cocktail friendly Good Love. Soul/R&B radio stations have embraced the simmering Spellbound & Speechless and Where Did We Go Wrong while jazz purist praised the vampish Millennium, the rhythm roundelay Jacob's Latter and the samba tinged Barumba, in tribute to Brazilian composer Luis Eca.

"We did go somewhere else with this record. I wanted this album to have an orchestral feel, but also to be the funkiest album we've done for awhile. I cut down on the bass, brought in a lot of strings. With the vocalist, I was looking for more 'in yer face' singers, somewhere near what Jocelyn Brown gave us on Always There.

"After auditioning many singers, I selected Joy Malcolm and Pamela Anderson. Two very strong voices who can also kill a ballad as well. Both Joy and Pamela are incredibly talented. They hear what I have to say, catch the vibe and then add their own thing. They are simply brilliant!"

One point of reference: Pamela is the voice behind D-Note's funky Babel long player and is part of the Anderson clan who brought us soul sirens Carleen Anderson via Virgin and Jhelisa Anderson on Moonshine. Joy is a seasoned session singer who will drop a solo set of her own right in the new year.

Does INCOGNITO exist beyond Bluey? Will there be a permanent line-up with some stable side kicks, while others nice up the mix and contribute their thoughts and ideas and move on to the next level?

"INCOGNITO is never going to be a band. It's always going to be me. That way, we stay focused."

TO JOURNEY WITHIN
Settling The Score

by Marta V. Butler

I remember as a child growing up that I was involved in several physical confrontations. Perhaps you were also. If the crowd around you deemed you the winner, all was well. You felt good about yourself, your ego was soaring at an altitude not even a plane would dare to go. If the crowd deemed you the loser, this would result in an ego blow out. Anger would grip you and you were determined to settle the score.

As we all grew and made the transition into young adulthood we were taught that when we were a child, we spoke as a child and we behaved as a child. Now as an adult we must behave accordingly. As adults, many of us have become oblivious to those intangibles instilled in us as children. They have found there place in our being and have remained there. Many of us have become complacent to the things that cause us fear, that cause us to doubt ourselves, to lack confidence in ourselves, to mistrust and oftentimes even dislike ourselves.

The time has arrived for us to travel to a place where no one else is capable of going. We must venture to that place called inner self. We must take the time to settle the score.

Oftentimes, constant validation by others seems to be the driving force that prevents us from settling the score. If you have reached a plateau in your life where flattery and feathering your cap no longer contains the substance it once did, know that the power of the Spirit is working in your life. You are being admonished to examine all of the intangibles regardless of how long or short their existence. Take the time to settle the score.

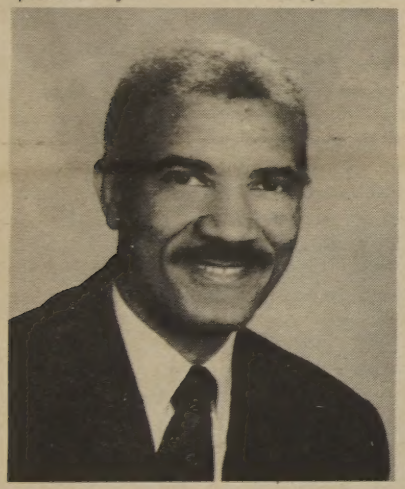
Through the years many of us were told we aren't smart enough, our hips are too wide, our hair is too short, our feet are too big. All of these and the like have caused many wonderful human beings to fall short of being the best. Understand, the challenge won't be easy, but it is within us to rise to the occasion. Move forward. Settle the score.

Realize that settling the score requires you to step into the arena of self acceptance. Know that the battle is with you and you alone. Acknowledge the fact that you have the power of the Divine as your ally. Believe all that is put forth and you will then emerge the VICTOR.

If we never take the time to settle the score, the element of defeat (which, by the way, is a negative energy) will forever be prevalent in our lives. Why remain the conquered when it is within our power to become the conqueror?

Settling the score is having the ability to look down at those big feet and love them, while shaking those wide hips as we look in the mirror and smile, while admiring our short hair because we're smart enough to know that that is where we place our crown.

MONOGAMY:
To Be Or Not To Be?



by Paul M. Smith, LICSW

Few issues in relationships tend to spark as much controversy as the one that deals with monogamy versus non-monogamy. As a community, we have struggled with this dilemma only to find that there are no easy answers and that monogamy often seems too difficult to achieve and sustain over the long haul with most couples. We come to this dilemma from a long history that is deeply rooted in the Judeo/Christian ethic that frames the heterosexual marriage in our culture. Most of us have grown up in these marriages (or relationships) and have deeply-held values relative to how we set boundaries around the sexual component of our relationships.

The model that we know best is that of monogamy. When it is mutually shared by the couple, it can work well from start to finish with both parties finding sustained mutual sexual and emotional compatibility together. However, when the commitment to monogamy breaks down, one or both is left feeling frustrated and out of sync with that template in their heads that says monogamy is the only right way to go.

If the couple wants to work toward restoring the commitment to monogamy, it may be necessary to seek counseling in order to look at what happened in the couple's sexual transaction that may have created the breakdown. Hopefully this process could help to find ways to reinitiate that spark that was once there and restore the couple to satisfying relations with each other. Sexual dynamics in a relationship are usually highly complex and when they break down, they are not easily ameliorated without some professional intervention involving both members of the couple.

However, when monogamy seems doomed, does this mean that the relationship has to end? No, not necessarily - especially if the two love each other and share a strong partnership in other ways. I believe that if there is a strong enough foundation in the relationship, the sexual contract may be renegotiated allowing for a shift from the 'old marriage' to a modified position in the relationship that can support opening up of the sexual component. This is by no means a simple or monolithic process. It goes to the very core of one's conceptual framework of what a committed relationship means. It struggles with one's beliefs, one's sense of security, one's fears of rejection and abandonment; feelings of anger and jealousy and the reevaluation of how one's intimacy and emotional needs are to be met in the relationship. This means that a lot of honest feelings, beliefs and attitudes must be put on the table by both parties so that what ever emerges comes from a place of honesty, mutual agreement and a respect for the integrity of the primary relationship.

There are significant risks to opening up the relationship that are over and above the obvious. Driggs and Finn, in the manual on 'How to Find and Keep Gay Relationships: Intimacy Between Men', suggest that sexuality and intimacy are like two rivers converging into a single river bed, sharing common boundaries on both sides. As they flow together, over time the river bed widens and deepens. If they diverge and flow separately, the channels will also separate and deepen independently making it difficult to reconnect or realign themselves further down stream. This metaphor, although simplistic, helps to explain why many relationships which become sexually open face the risk of loosing the convergence between sexuality and intimacy.

Another concern is that, as sexuality and intimacy diverge, the time and energy that would ordinarily be concentrated in the relationship becomes diluted and dissipated outside. It takes a lot of time and energy to seek outside sexual fulfillment and when these resources are going out rather than staying in, it diminishes the workpower available to maintain and grow a strong and healthy primary relationship.

And lastly, sexual openness needs to happen without secrecy and deception. Some couples need a variation of the don't ask, don't tell policy in order to handle non-monogamy. However, secrecy and deception only breed guilt and shame, two of the most toxic threats to intimacy and trust between two people.

So, can a couple successfully shift from monogamy to sexual openness in their relationship? It can happen only if there is a secure enough foundation inlaid with trust, honesty, mutual agreement and respect.

Such a foundation is only the beginning, however. Stepping out of monogamy into the uncertain terrain of sexual openness is like stepping out into a mine field. The risks are high and missteps costly. It will require a tremendous amount of thoughtful caring, consideration and planning with each step of the way to avoid the pitfalls and to protect the integrity of the primary relationship.

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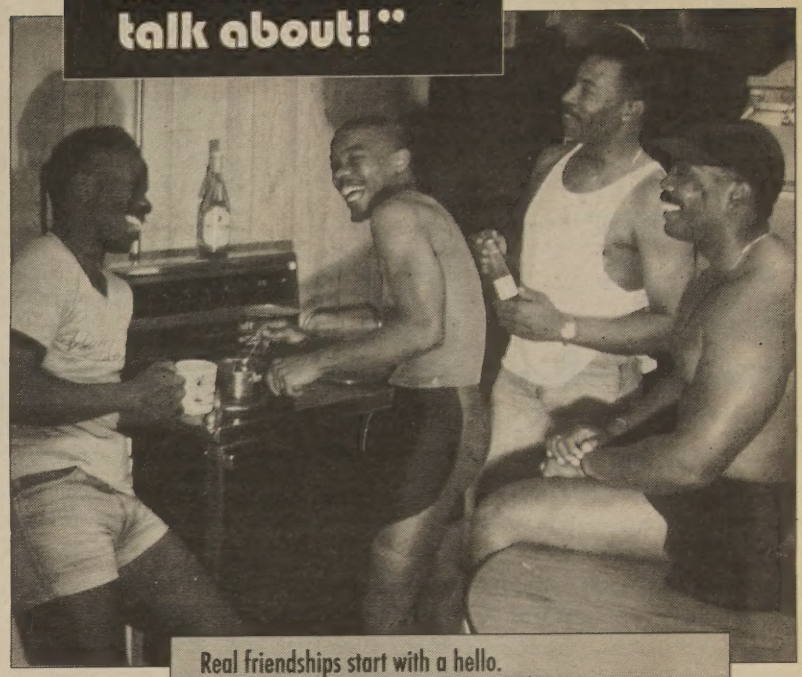

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BELIEVING IN THE AFRICAN PROVERB: "BEFORE HEALING OTHERS, HEAL THY SELF"

Programs funded in part by Los Angeles County AIDS Programs

D.C. DOIN's

by Mark F. Johnson, WASHINGTON D.C. CORRESPONDENT

While the rest of Washington can blame the foot long icicles on the latest arctic air mass, that excuse won't hold water at the Capitol. The place has been frigid cold since the Republicans took over last year. And right now, unfortunately, there is no relief in sight. Democratic members of Congress seem to be bailing out on an almost daily basis lately and I wonder if they will ever be the majority party again anytime soon.

However, there is a ray of hope in the recent announcement of one Democratic member who has decided to leave the House of Representatives. REP. KWESI MFUME of Maryland has recently announced that he will give up his (very safe Democratic) seat next February to become the new Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the nation's oldest civil rights group. What a stroke of genius!

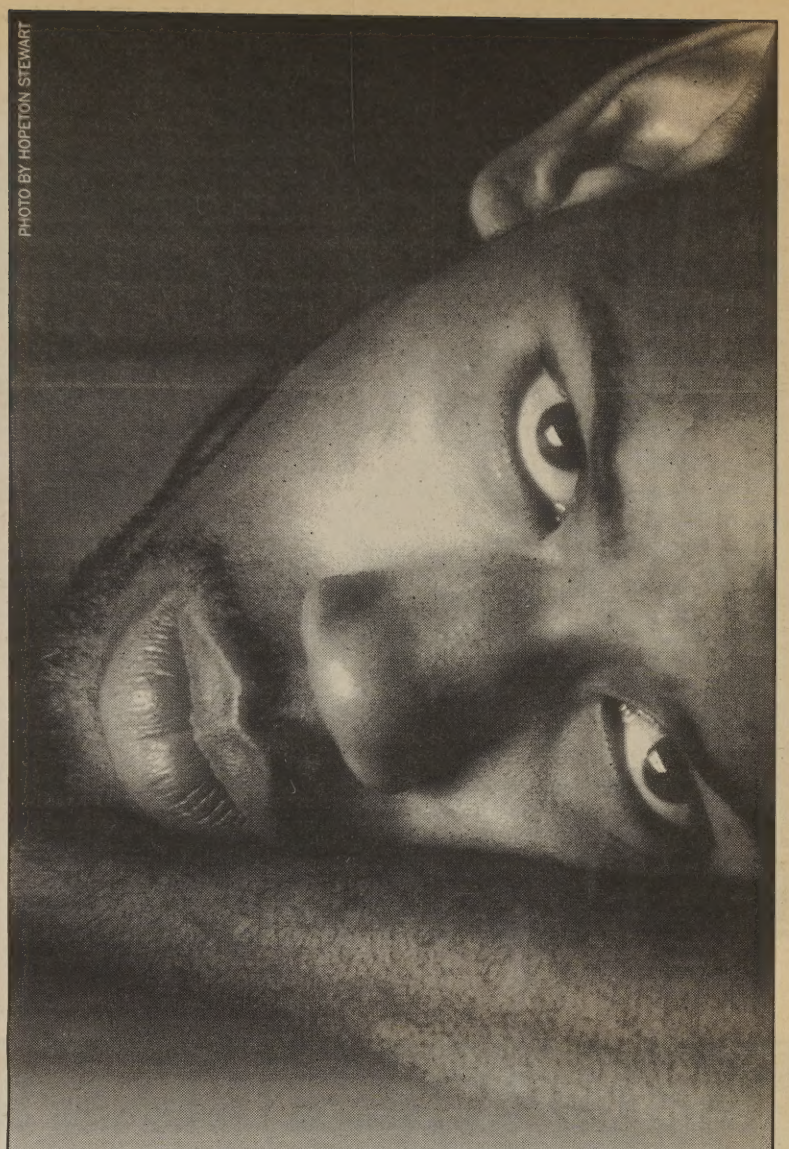
Mfume, the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus is certainly one of a short list of people who could probably bring respect back to that organization and raise it to the level that it should be as we enter the 21st century. He is a savvy, intelligent and articulate politician who has learned a lot about the power game during his eight years in Congress. He can bring a great deal to the NAACP and by extension to the African American community.

We in the Black gay community should welcome his appointment, especially because, in the past, he and the other members of the Congressional Black Caucus have demonstrated a fine understanding and commitment to our appeals for a place at the Black family table. So far I see this appointment as a win-win situation all around. I wish him much success when he takes over the reins of the beleaguered group next year.

And Speaking of next year, Nineteen ninety-six promises to be an interesting one. We first have the election to look forward to—both presidential and congressional. But, on the literary tip, we
must get ready for the release

E. LYNN HARRIS' third novel "And This Too Shall Pass," due to be published by Doubleday sometime next spring. Not to be outdone, "B-Boy Blues" author

JAMES EARL HARDY says he's about to take his latest sizzler off the stove. It will be a sequel to "B-Boy...", one of this year's hottest selling novels. And a serious look at what it means to be black and gay in America will be offered by Keith Boykin, Executive Director of the National Black Lesbian & Gay Leadership Forum. Keith has interviewed many, many people that you may know or have heard of for his work. On the gone, but certainly not forgotten author's list is D.C.'s own ESSEX HEMPHILL. The prolific trailblazer among Black gay writers left us this past fall but his memory lives on and on and on. Plans for a Hemphill memorial service are being hatched by friends in Washington who want to see a day of expressions and celebrations in his honor on his next birthday, April 16th. They are calling upon organizers in all major cities to plan tomemorialize him on the day that he would have turned 39. Peace and joy unto you. May 1996 bring all the big, good and healthy things you wish for yourself. For me, that would be a new boyfriend!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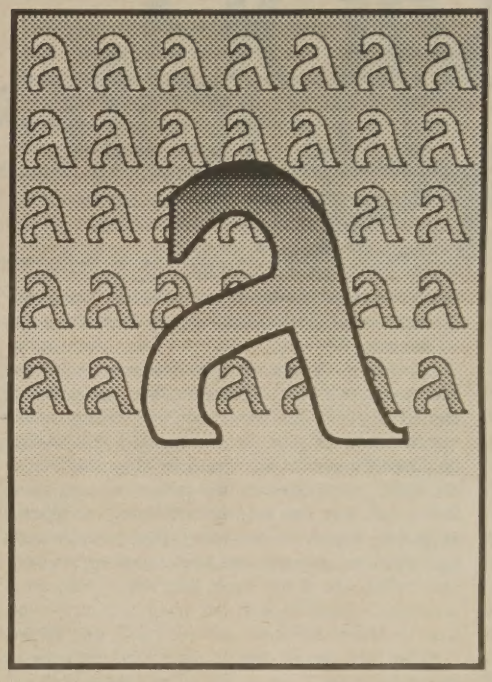

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PARTY

Weenie to the left of me. Weenie to the right of me. Piles and piles of cakes. Clever banter and bright, pretty faces... This is not, of course, a complaint. It is, instead, the way to do an entertaining evening of theeAYtuh.

PARTY is a confectioner's delight about seven friends who get together for their monthlyish evening of dish, froch and frolic. On this particular evening, the fellas introduce a new member to the fun and (appallingly) nonsexual games. While its unfortunate that the newbie, Andy (Ray Bahart), is no Eve Harrington, his innocence in the midst of a gaggle of varyingly jaded homosexuals provides humorous counterpoint and balance to the archly hilarious Ray (a scenestealing Ted Bales), an acerbic, ofttimes acidtongued young priest/old queen. Their differences also establish early on the homosexual generation gap.

The fun begins when they engage in a truthordare type game which will inevitably lead to everybody stripped buck naked both physically and psychologically... albeit painlessly. Each character supplies some revealing and embarrassing factoid from his life before disrobing to the audience's delight.

Yes, there is a Brothuh in this predominantly Anglo production—William Wesley, portraying the leather queen whose accepted "dare" to do twenty jumping jacks in the buff had a dozen necks or so craning late in the show. Whiplash anonymous anyone?

Now, before you paint your nails jungle red and go CAT WOMAN on us, you should know that William's role is not written for an African American. In fact, there is not even the vaguest mention of ethnicity in the play at all. On the flip, while his character is underwritten, at least Willyumyum has the bestest ...er, "participles" adangling in PARTY and one truly tastylooking hind end tucked in a terry cloth robe.

Rumor has it that while author, DAVID DILLON, looks forward to a long run here in sunny LA, he's also hoping to bring his PARTY to a city near you and bare all soon.

East coast legit to the west...

ETERNAL E

EASYE's incredibly rapid rise from street tough to Rap icon and visionary entrepreneur before being felled by AIDS at the relatively tender age of 31 plays, in retrospect, like HORATIO ALGER cum CITIZEN KANE, remarkably "allAmerican." The irony and seeming contradictions loom too large and cast a shadow far too long to be missed.

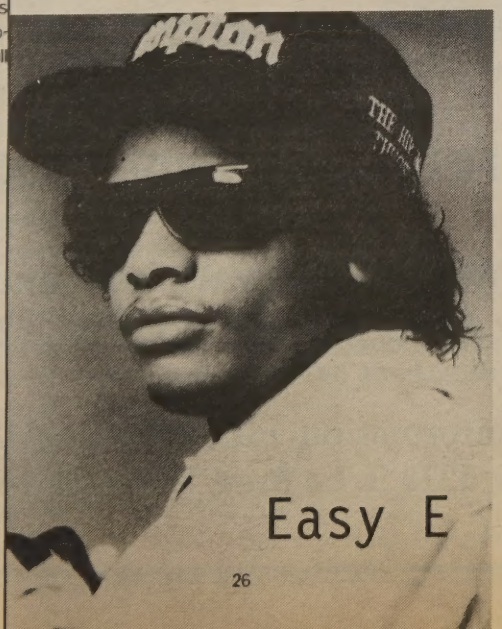
As one of the founding members of NWA (Niggas With Attitude) he helped push Rap to the forefront of pop music and that old fantasy called "mainstream" culture without compromising the message, telling it just as it was on the streets of his native Compton while simultaneously putting West Coast Rap on the map.

One has to wonder what the response might have been to the RODNEY KING beating, the civil unrest that ensued or even such presumably less directly related events as the OJ saga and the socalled REPUBLICAN REVOLUTION without the voices of Easy, DR. DRE or ICE CUBE among others. In the context of giving sound to the voiceless, the violence and misogyny depicted in gangsta Rap is no less repugnant than the willful ignorance and arrogantly assumed superiority of those who moved out of the 'hood, they who moved on to supposedly secure jobs in the 'burbs and their neighbors to whom they were now somewhat less inferior.

Those who would seek to silence gangsta Rap by denigrating Eazy E, et al, for so stunningly and successfully marketing gangsta Rap might do well to reexamine their own parts in helping to create the climate and environment producing young people who identify with the gansta message.

They ought to try and look beyond the man's image, too, and applaud his entrepreneurial success as evidenced by his work with artists such as MICHEL'LE, JJ FADD, ABOVE THE LAW, and BONE THUGS 'N' HARMONY. Similarly, I'm sure they would also praise his charitable contributions to ATHLETES AND ENTERTAINERS FOR KIDS, CITY OF HOPE, UNITED COLORS and the MAKE A WISH FOUNDATION. A portion of the proceeds from this CD will be donated to pediatric AIDS.

ETERNAL E may actually be one of the first snapshots of Rap's golden age, Rap having since seeped into just about every form of contemporary music. It offers EazyE at his best, in a minimalist setting with just his voice, a microphone, a groove and whatever is on the Brother's mind. While his legacy will inevitably be judged by his music's endurance, and ten years ain't all that much time, this boy from the 'hood still sounds fresh as evuh.



PETER DOKUS

JAMES MINCHIN

VERONICA

I must admit that try as I might to resist, Puerto Rican hip hop/R&B newcomer, VERONICA's CD "V.. Is For Veronica." (Mercury) Allegedly, her record label intends to play down the siren's ethnicity and play up her vocal skills in order to avoid comparisons with other Latino vocal femme fatale vocalists like LISA LISA and LISETTE MELENDEZ. Unhuh. Did I mention that she has blue eyes? Anyway, with noble assist from the likes of DALLAS AUSTIN, DUI and FULL FORCE, girlfriend's got flavatago. Every track is lean and real in a way that reminds me of MARY J.'s debut. Full and throaty singing without too much unnecessary hollering, smart grooves, good vibe. Well worth the time again and again.

FILMFILE

WHOOPI GOLDBERG will host this year's ACADEMY AWARDS again, with Q. JONES producing. She was the first AfAm and first fem to do it solo. They'd worked together on "THE COLOR PURPLE" in which she starred, he produced.

You can get the "considerably shorter" version of the NC17 rated MGM/UA release, "Showgirls," at a Blockbuster outlet near you. I haven't seen the original or the Blockbuster version where, reportedly, certain graphically violent scenes will be omitted.

Still, I plan to rent it just to see GLENN PLUMMER sweatin and dancin up a storm. Sex appeal aside (which, in his case would be quite a feat), the deep-

brownskinned brothuh was most gracious when we ran into each other at my favorite "South Hollywood" coffee haunt. I was flattered that he even remembered having seen me "around" as an actor. The truth is, I'd evaded his inquiries into where he knew me from because I hadn't worked in so long. It's a typical Hollywood actor/slash/this/that/ and the other story. But, I didn't want to bore a handsome man with the details of my little ole uneventful life.

Mr. Plummer never did mention any of his upcoming work, nor did he flirt with me. I chalked the former up to the humility which was abundant well before the film opened, and to the latter the fact that my homobarometer is one of the worst on the planet. Fact is, I couldn't hit a homosexual geyser with a divining rod. I do plan to rent that video, though, if only to watch Glen Plummer. Plummer. Great name, don't you thank?

Pistol packin Sisters of the world unite! You may soon have a leader if the rumors floating around are correct about a possible remake of the JOHN CASSAVETTES film, GLORIA, starring an African American in the title role. The original starred GENA ROWLANDS as a mobster's tough exgirlfriend suddenly caught up again in the underworld when she befriends a little boy who witnessed the assassination of his family. No names have been attached to the lead role yet, but I'm sure we'll know soon...

and then we can all exhale.

IMMATURE'S GROWING

Fourteen year old hip hop veterans, IMMATURE, return with their hookdrenched, hitladen sophomore effort WE GOT IT that surpasses its certified gold precursor, PLAYTIME IS OVER. Anything but sophomoric, the fellas (under the careful and steady guidance of "founder/manager/producer," Chris Stokes) deliver solid and sometimes masterful RNB crooner performances over taut urban grooves. While not quite exhibiting the raw genius or all encompassing and selfcontained dexterity of the JACKSON 5 to whom they've been (but who hasn't?) compared, they appear to have the goods: the sort of musical gift that can transcend fickle audiences, mediocre material and (perhaps more importantly) that adolescent change of voice. Best cuts: The pop/urban WE GOT IT, LOVER'S GROOVE with its harder hiphop edge, PAGER's rather trite but pop accessible low riding groove, the "baby please take me back" ballad entitled I CAN'T STOP THE RAIN, and the smooth as hell BOY LIKE ME.

FEEL THE FUNK (from the soundtrack album of the film DANGEROUS MINDS) is also included, unfortunately. Its the only incongruity on the album. Despite the record's excellence, its like a snapshot of this Fab Three as toddlers. They've definitely moved on to the next level. No reminder needed.

TONY, GO BACK AND GET YOURSELF

Okayyyyy... While it may be a smart business move to emulate BABYFACE'S vocal affectations and his "my poor broken heart style" as a songwriter..... HOWEVUH, whenever this ploy is employed, it invariably moves the artist away from his own voice. TONY RICH will probably sell a few more records because of his intimate (musical) association with MR. KENNETH EDMONDS (aka Babyface), but he's still got to prove his own stylistic mettle before we give up the props.

When at his best, though, Rich mines the Babyface sound for the best in arrangement and producer's creative vision. Still that doesn't make the feathers as tasty as the chicken. But expect Tony Rich, called by some an acoustic R&B artist, to receive too much fucking attention over the next several months, due to the aforementioned affiliation. However, my guess is that Mr. Rich will be politely feted as the next phase in contemporary R&B and then quickly buried. Large and powerful conglomerates and the folks who live in their hallowed walls can make stars out of folks like Tony Rich or MARIAH CAREY or TONI BRAXTON and so many others while blissfully ignoring these folks real gifts, arguing that those qualities are only of marginal interest, delivering less economic buck for the bang, if you will. But reality eventually steps in and shit. 'K? Part of me hopes that the Tony Rich project "WORDS" fails miserably because I'd love to see this artist go back and regroup and say what's really on his mind. Another part of me wants the Brothuh to succeed. Yet another part of me rages that outside of PRINCE, STEVIE WONDER, TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY and incredibly few others, when it comes to R&B music, almost none of the fellas whose albums are getting produced are saying anything new or truly provocative. Unfortunately the same is true of THE TONY RICH PROJECT.

WILLIAM HAMES

MORE RAP ON RAP

SEN. BOB DOLE, author WILLIAM BENNETT and C. DELORES TUCKER (NATIONAL POLITICAL CONGRESS OF BLACK WOMEN) may be breathing fire right now with the overwhelming success of THA DOGG POUND'S gangsta rap debut, DOGG FOOD (Priority Records). Dole, Bennett and Tucker have long assailed the violence and misogyny in rap music, seemingly perplexed to its continued popularity, particularly among young people.

With all due respect to Dole, Bennett and Tucker's genuine concern for the plight of our youth (and the growing rate of violence among our young men), I can't help but wonder if its even remotely occurred to them that the language of the debate on values is completely and totally alien to many of these young people. And while I would personally prefer that there be more parental (as opposed to governmental) guidance in terms of helping select the music that young people bring into the house, we cannot ignore the level of denial in so many adults that they themselves gave up control a long time ago.

Many of the people crying foul over Rap cheered when that centuryold bastion of discipline and source of income called "the draft" was ended; they voted RONALD REAGAN into office and he promptly cut off the (youth oriented) TAP and CETA programs; they sat idly by as student loan and grant programs were systematically gutted. These young people saw their elders either shopping 'til they dropped or off pursuing material gain throughout the eighties, leaving SESAME STREET and NINTENDO to babysit the kids if they were affluent.

On the other side of the tracks, cash was choked off from the youth centers, business decided that the workers were mere chattel, not their brothers and sisters, therefore, the rules applying to being one's "brother's keeper" could be flouted; and they squeezed out the worker mule. Result: Black, brown skinned and lower middle classed workers all shamed out of their families because they couldn't provide for them.

The greater, expertly executed end: a society whose young men have been told, unequivocally, by their elders, "I got mine, you get yours. And make no mistake—we could care less about you, and we will do whatever to maintain this new society."

Along comes a gangsta rapper, flashing the gold chains, speaking our language, validating our (very much righteous) feelings of anger and abandonment, ultimately empowering us.

Everybody around us listens to tha gangstas. We are a mighty army. We are all young, therefore invincible and suddenly so very powerful. Why the fuck should we listen to a bunch of old people who listen to Frank Sinatra and Leontyne Price? What the fuck did Martin Luther King do for me? And they killed Malcolm X because he wanted to share the respect, didn't they? I say take what I want or need by any means possible because the thin line that separates me from you is as easy to erase as that which separates "yours" from "ours."

But, of course, the question "why?... why do you seem to hate us?" is as hard to ask/answer as it is to delete that one little letter, the letter "Y," which makes "yours" of "ours."

Granted, too many rappers have been hard on women, especially Black women. But is Rap music any more juvenile than rock and heavy metal have been for the last two decades? Or, reaching back even further, how about Nat King Cole's "Calypso Blues" in which a fine "Calypso woman" would "cook me shrimp and rice..." and that was the extent of his respect for a female; what she could do for him as a servant.

It just seems to me that everybody's attacking these young brothers who are clawing their way out of the barrel the very best way they know how (sans the guidance of their elders) and that while, yes, much of the violence we hear in their lyrics sounds extreme, the reality is that the outlook for young Black men (Million Man March notwithstanding) is bleak. The tendency to isolate gangsta rap as the cause of contemporary urban ills, thus making the silencing of their voices the "magic bullet", is equally reprehensible, sending the message further that this voice is not to be respected in open dialogue.

Most disturbing though, is the way that these selfproclaimed morality police refuse to look at the (mostly) youth generated violence in the larger context of violence as an oft used tool in shaping American history. In HBO's VIOLENCE: AN AMERICAN TRADITION the thread of violence is traced from the country's bloody beginnings from the Revolutionary War to today. Using graphic drawings, photographs and film footage, the Julian Bond narrated Home Box Office exclusive is a telling and scathing indictment of the "long tradition of mob violence and assassination." And, knowingly, as it reconstructs our savage past, its contemporary parallels never leave our periphery.

Early twentieth century mafia killings share a common lineage with today's random youth violence: in each case, the victims are typically seen as dispensable, (be it drunks in the age of prohibition or crackheads in the "three strikes" era) and were/are typically poor.

After watching the horrors visited on so many children, women and men of color, it seems almost respectable that young Black men, having learned what it takes to make it from their Anglo male precursors and role models, cling so closely to violence.

Julian Bond and HBO lay out this world of confusion without blinking an eye or pulling any punches. Its damned good and quite entertaining viewing. And even with all its goriness, still the responsible approach taken by the makers of VIOLENCE... makes the documentary's violence bearable, worth watching with your younger one.

THE BILLION DOLLAR QUEEN

OPRAH WINFREY is movin' on up. Seems the queen of chat with apoint is not only on the FORBES list as one of the wealthiest Americans but she's rumored to be on her way to becoming The First Black Billionaire. Actually, it couldn't happen to a nicer person. Several years back, just after her OSCAR nomination and just after I'd moved to LA, Ms. Winfrey graciously agreed to stop for a moment for a photograph with an insistent friend whom I'd accompanied to morning services as WARD AME CHURCH! Before you clock me for my act of random tastelessness, let this go on record as an official policy.

THE COLOR IS GREEN

AL GREEN, of course, has no need to apologize unless its for depriving us secular listeners of the quintessential soul voice of the seventies for over eighteen years! All's forgiven, Mr. Green, with YOUR HEART'S IN GOOD HANDS.

Thoroughly Al Green from start to finish, "Your Heart's..." reminds why the eighttime GRAMMY winner was once a contender for SAM COOKE's throne as pop/soul king along with more established contemporaries, MARVIN GAYE and STEVIE WONDER before his religious convictions took him down that other equally successful road to gospel music. His smoldering, underplayed tenor still leaps effortlessly into that crystal clear falsetto, yearning to get out of the frying pan, hissing/crackling/teasing like fatback slapped on a red hot frying pan. It's that feelgood lovin' promising to carry you forever like a full belly or real lovemaking at the beginning of the day. Keep ya head up for COULD THIS BE LOVE, written and produced by JODECI's DEVANTE, with the fellas adding a gritty background. Also check out old schoolcharmwithanewjackgrooved, LOVE IS A BEAUTIFUL THING and the truly intimate R&B ballad, YOUR LOVE and the uplifting, KEEP ON PUSHING with its soothing, sexy opening harkening back to the classic, LET'S STAY TOGETHER.

Yesssssss... the man's still got the magic. Listen for him in a club near you.

ANOTHER CUTE ADDITION TO THE BOYGROUP CLUB

'Course, if you need more than one good man, AFEWGOODMEN will likely hit the spot. This quartet is the latest offering from LAFACE Records and a seemingly direct and honorable addition to the ever expanding field of male vocal quartets. They have a polished roughness and roughishness in their gospelrooted vocals that constantly challenges JODECI, BOYZ II MEN, LEVERT and the rest of the pack while never even remotely approaching the likes of THE TEMPS, O'JAYS, THE SPINNERS, THE FOUR TOPS, THE CHILITES, etc.

Yes, they sound great. Yes they're all very attractive. Yes, they'll probably sell a lot of records. But are they special? Not especially. Can they service your needs when you need a soundtrack for you and the one you love.? Absolutely. And that ain't too damn bad. Of particular note is the standout track, WALK YOU THRU. You don't even need to add salt it's delish!

TRACEY TRACING OLD TRACKS

It's about hitting that stride, remaining true and current, remaining relevant, in the mix, worthwhile. On her third album NEW BEGINNING, Black girl with guitar, TRACEY CHAPMAN, returns to the themes of longing and desire and social commentary of her eponymously titled freshman offering.

With a voice ever more the happy if haunting and often chilling medium between JOAN ARMATRADING and NINA SIMONE, la belle Chapman's earnest pleas for both our spiritual and physical environments lack the bite, eloquence and irony of that first outing.

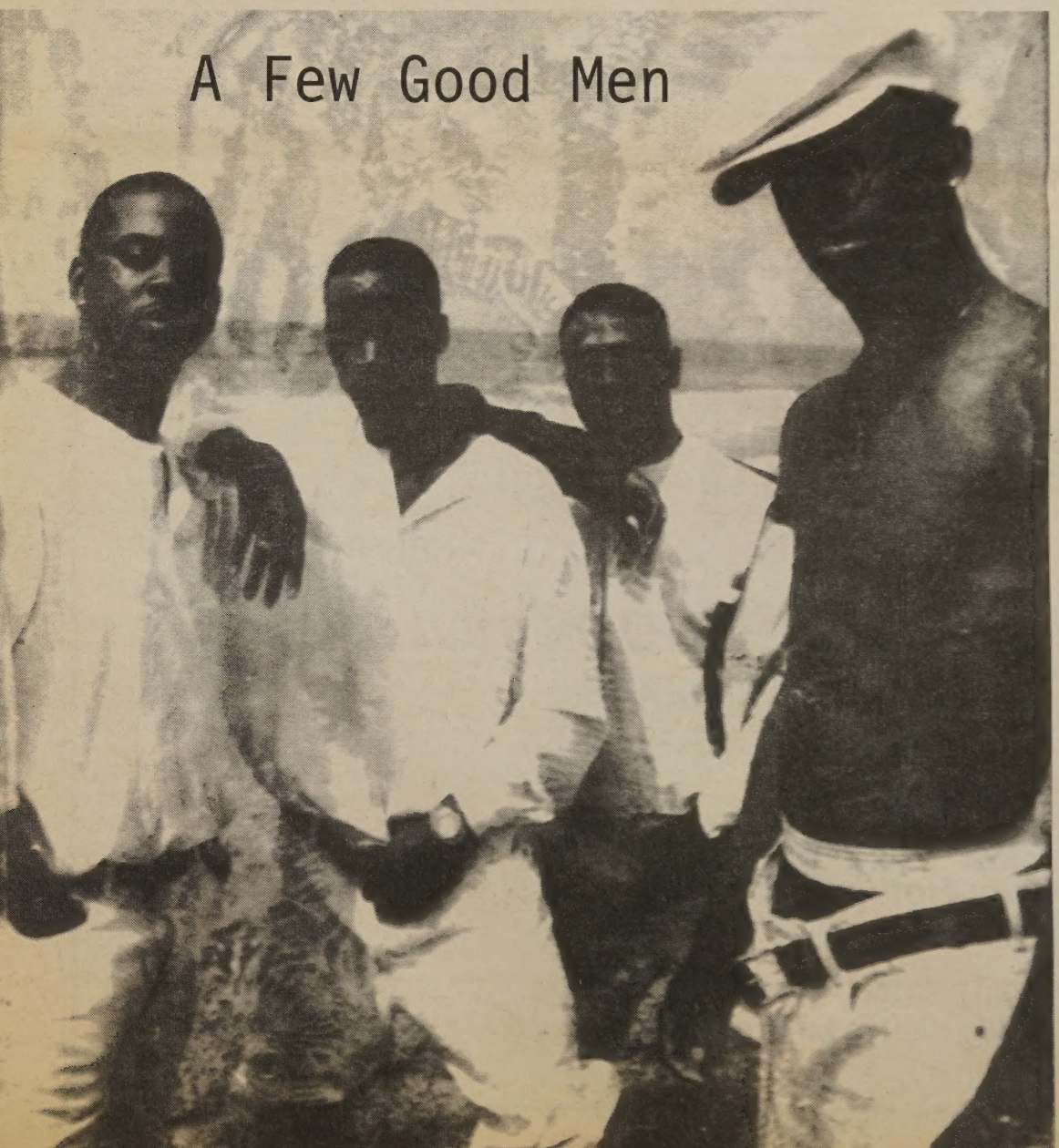
Also, girlfriend, get yourself some Prozac! All that relentless sadness and those meditations on loss were cute on snowy nights in a college dormitory. But, been there, done that, remember—on the first album?

Indeed, since then we've seen the emergence of ME'SHELL NDEGEOCELLO, SHERYLL CROW, TLC, QUEEN LATIFAH, COURTNEY LOVE and this year's monster newcomers like DIONNE FARRIS and ALANIS MORISSETTE andtheupandcoming comer, HEATHER NOVA. Add to that the reemergence of veteran sangin/ songwritin/ guitartotin'/ pianoplayin, kick ass divas like TEENA MARIE, PATRICE RUSHEN, CHRYSSIE HINDE and RICKIE LEE JONES [just check out her blistering and brilliant new NAKED SONGS from which a savvy artist could mine some killer R&B tunes] who are more clever, more adept at being rawyetsavvy, better at making a point subtly, poetically.

If not for that lovely, earthy contralto of Chapman's (which deserves far better material than she appears capable of writing at this time) she could make a fortune giving insomniacs a "New Beginning."

REBA DOES DONNA

Dynamic disco doll, DONNA SUMMER, jets in from Nashville for a New Year's Eve performance at LA's Universal Amphitheater as a preamble to next year's gaggle of open air summer concerts and an upcoming club-oriented album. Interestingly, even as she resurges in popularity with the renewed appreciation of disco (and techno pop), it looks like the queen of the clubs is poised to conquer the country music scene all over again with the release of country superstar REBA MCENTIRE's latest, STARTING OVER. The title track (a big hit for country/pop superstar, DOLLY PARTON, a few years back) was written by Donna Summer. Hmmm... I guess we can all get along if we all know the tune.

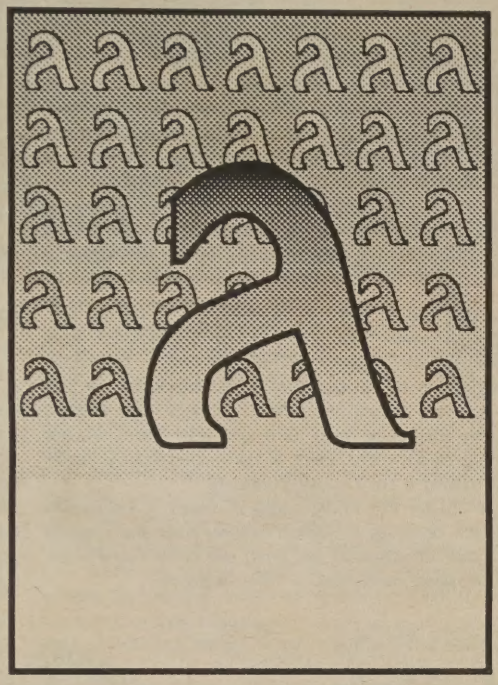


SEND MABEL KING SOME LOVE YALL

And finally, let's send up a holiday prayer for one of Hollywood's favorite moms, MABEL KING. On December 14, friends of Ms. King's tributed the actress best known for her role as the widowed mother of two teenagers in the hit 1970's sitcom, WHAT'S HAPPENING and for her role as the Wicked Witch, Evilene, in both the Broadway and film versions of THE WIZ. Ms. King's physical and financial health have taken a downturn in recent years. After losing the use of her left arm to a stroke in 1990, diabetes has since claimed both legs and a 1994 fall from her wheelchair damaged her teeth and face. Yet, like Job, her faith and resolve remain strong.

Last year's tribute raised the funds necessary to purchase Ms. King's wheelchair. Hopefully this year will bring Ms. King greater fortune in every area. If you would like to help, contact the WE CARE ABOUT LIFE TEAMS at (818) 7604403 or FAX (818) 760 2514.

THE NATIONAL
BLACK GAY AND LESBIAN LEADERSHIP FORUM



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L.A. CLASSIFIEDS:

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HEART TO HEART: Workshops for gay men to explore friendship and trust in supportive non-sexual touch activities. Mondays: APLA 1313 North Vine St., Hollywood. Wednesdays: 8000 Sunset Blvd. Community Room, West Hollywood. 7:30 PM. $10. 213.891.6000

COUNSELING FOR HIV RELATED ISSUES, ADDICTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, LOSS & GRIEF, DEPRESSION AND STRESS. Flexible fees, MediCal/Medicare accepted. Call Payam Ghassemlou MFCC intern #IMF 22086 310.854.2035. Dr. Wilkey, Supervisor #Psy 8380.

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BLACK MALE NURSE WITH THERAPEUTIC HANDS, FINGERS AND OILS will give free total body massage from head to toe to chubby, chunky Black men from 290 to 300 lbs. with super, big thighs & big butt. Safe and free. 213. 933.3098.

NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL PERSONALS AND PEN PALS:

LONELY GM, 36, 5 ' 9", BROWN EYES, BLK HAIR, SLIM BUILD, IN GREAT SHAPE AND HEALTH ISO honesty, romance and caring. I am seeking professional gay man for long time monogamous friendship, possible relationship. I've taken a few wrong turns in my life and feel that with a special someone my life can be meaningful again. You will not be disappointed. Waiting. John W. Moore #89970/ Kentucky State Penitentiary/ P.O. Box 128/ Eddyville, Ky. 42038.

IF YOU HAVE A BROKEN HEART call 1.900.285.5050 Ext. 971. $2.00 per minute. Must be 18 yrs. old. Customer Service: 408.625.1910.

CALIFORNIA

BEFORE TRAVELLING TO OAKLAND call day or night 1.900.285.5050 Ext. 972. For street scene. $2.00 per minute. 18 yrs. and older. Strauss Communications 408.625.1910.

TIRED OF GAMES? TIRED OF LONELY? Professional GM, 5' 10", 45, romantic & life mate oriented, is in search of honest, dynamic, affectionate Black or PR male. 21—40? Hung 8++? I love to kiss, cuddle, suck, be sucked and BE fucked. Serious only. 414.445.5552.

MARYLAND

ME: WELL HUNG, MUSCULAR, AFFECTIONATE, CLEAN-SHAVEN BM, 5' 10", 31w, 175 lbs. You: small waist and big protruding bubble butt. Let's connect for some man loving. Harold P.O. Box 22263/Baltimore, Md. 21203-4263.

MICHIGAN

VERY ATTRACTIVE, VERSATILE BM, MID 20'S, 6', 195 WORKOUT LBS., medium brown, masculine, affectionate and friendly with many interests ISO handsome BM or Puerto Rican who's masculine, muscular or in good shape, with a nice personality for a serious 1-2-1 relationship. Tall and/or hairy is a plus but not necessary: Honesty is. If you're serious about a relationship with a quality person who's good looking and you're the same, please write and let's get to know one another. Replies welcome from throughout U.S. No fats, fems, or games. Robert Scott/ 9223 Priest/ Detroit, MI 48228-2207.

MISSISSIPPI

ATTRACTIVE AND HANDSOME 26 YEAR OLD AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE with light complexion seeks attractive men ages 18 to 30. I am versatile, you be bottom or top, African American, Hispanic and hot. Write to Bob/ p.o. Box 101/ Okolona, MS. 38860.

MISSOURI

MY BODY'S CALLIN', DISTANT LOVER. I will be right here so have no fear. Need very muscular bod with a beautiful personality and smile for friendship and relationship! Let's talk about it. Send photo clothed or naked. I'm easy to please. Darren. 3401 E. 62nd/Kansas City, MO. 64130.

SLIM ATTRACTIVE BGM, 29, 5' 11", 160 LBS. would like to meet a very open-minded male of any race who is straight acting and looking. Send photo to K. Lawrence/ 4246 St. Louis Ave./ St. Louis, MO. 63115.

WASHINGTON D.C.

GBM SEEKING TO MEET OTHER GBM'S. I'm 5' 6 1/2" 130 lbs., 28w, swimmer's build, culinary graduate, travel, sports, easy-going, enjoys life, stable, financially secure, light drinker—no smoke or drugs. Relationship oriented. Tim. Box 77913 Washington D.C. 20013.

TORONTO, CANADA

FRENCHMAN, 40'S, MASCULINE, WELL-BUILT, AFFECTIONATE, seeks genuine friendship with GBM anywhere. Interests: nature, fitness, cycling, snorkeling, music, movies...Box 222, Station C, Toronto, Canada M6J 3M9.

JAMAICA, WEST INDIES

ATTRACTIVE MIXED RACE GM, LOOKS PR, 34, 5' 11", 170 LBS. Athletic and into sports, seeks gay Black man for hot correspondence. You: handsome, masculine, 30—40, in-shape to muscular. Write: Harris/1 St. Lucia Ave./ Shop 35, Suite 2/ Spanish Court, Kingston 5/Jamaica W.I.

With over **25,000** Africentric Homosexuals and their friends from across the country (and in Switzerland and England) reading SBC, you're **bound** to make that business, social, cultural and/or personal

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WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON besides being hung over-average and good looking? Box # 1378

NEW IN TOWN, BRITISH-NIGERIAN young black man, 29 yrs., 5' 7", 8" dick, slim, defined swimmer's body. Seeks other Nigerians, West Africans and other Africans for friendship fun and more. You—between 25-35 yrs., under 6 ft., well built, well hung (over 8"), str8 looking/acting. Top. Box # 2142

BGM, MASCULINE, 6', 190 LBS. LIGHT SKIN BOTTOM ISO warm and masculine BM who will squeeze, caress & excite every inch of my thighs, butt & tummy. Dick size unimportant, but no drugs, fats or fems. Box # 1379

VERY WELL-ENDOWED, VERY ATTRACTIVE, CUT, VERSATILE, HIV-, 24 YEAR OLD BLACK MAN, 6', 170 lbs., great long slim body, great smile, great personality and great sex. ISO HIV-, very well-endowed, very attractive and personable Black men, 25-40, with good bodies (no over-weights) and great sexual abilities (a little on the freaky side is not bad). I am into hot, safe sexual encounters. I am not into games, flakes, fems and/or irresponsibility. Let's hook up soon. You will not be disappointed. Box # 2122

30 YR OLD SINGLE AND FREE BM TOP seeks a Black Bottom, ages 29 to 31, for friendship, fun and/or sex. Box # 1273

ATTRACTIVE BM, 65, 5' 11", 152 LBS., HIV- ISO young, attractive, lean TOP who wants to find out how tight and satisfying a senior citizen's buns are. Box # 1063

30ISH CUBAN-AMERICAN MAN-CHILD, 5' 10", 175 lbs., solid, husky build, caramel skin, green eyes, blk hair, thick legs, great ass, non-fem bottom, boyish charm. ISO big dick tops that like to fuck. Long Beach area yea. Box # 2111

WANTED: VERY LARGE, HARD, ROUNDED BUNS with smooth, muscular body, masculine, HIV-, easy-going, for friendship or more. Me: Hispanic, 5' 10", 180 lbs., down-to-earth, athletic body, outdoors, masculine, HIV-, well-endowed. Box # 1341

2 ATTRACTIVE, WELL-HUNG YOUNG MEN 23 & 19 y.o., In/Out. Looking to perform tag team for any serious persons with finances. A time to remember. Tops and bottoms are welcomed. Call for hot young sex. Box # 2130

GWM SEEKING BLACK MUSCLE STUDS TO FUCK MY FACE. Love to deep throat uncut black meat. Bodybuilders A+, uniform men A+. Would love to sharpen your pencil. The bigger the better Box # 3050

19 YEAR OLD BLACK MALE STUDENT ISO a very attractive roughneck, 18-25, for more than sex! Box # 1355

QUE PASA? PUERTORIQUENO DE 21 ANOS, DE ALTURA REGULAR Y CURPO mediano, moreno, busca companero latino masculino, alto, con verga y wevos grande. Me gusta disfruter mucho, afuera y dentro de la cama! Soy sincero, simpatico, decente, y busco alquien con la mismas qualidades! Si quieres harcelo Llama Attora! Box # 4083

HANDSOME, 5' 9", BROWN HAIR, BLUE EYES, NATURAL LOOKING WHITE MALE M.A. STUDENT who likes the outdoors, movies, great conversation, sensuality. Seeking very masculine, good-looking, fit, 30-35 y.o. Top, caramel skin with similar interest for dating. Box # 1360

I AM A VERY AFRICENTRIC BROTHER, age 49, 215 lbs., handsome and well educated. Seeking an Africentric Brother who is self-loving, sensitive, and caring! Age not an issue. no smokers or drugs. If you love Black people, give me a call. Hotep. Box # 2121

DARK GBM, 27 YRS. OLD, 6' 2", 210 LBS. WELL HUNG TOP. Great body, HIV-. You be well hung versatile 21-35 clean Black men only. No games. Be honest, HIV-. GOOD TIMES AND NASTY SEX. PLEASE, DISCREET ONLY. GET AT ME. Box # 1013

WANTED: TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME BROTHER. I'm 32, 5' 9", 165 lbs., light complexion, attractive, muscular. ISO serious-minded, masculine, muscular BLK man for friendship and possible relationship. Box # 2128

HOT ROMANTIC BIBM (NEW TO L.A. FROM CHICAGO) VGL 5' 8", 145 LBS., 29 yrs., slim, masculine, discreet—into dancing, sports, workouts, talks and hot fun. Seeks friends of any race and someone that is very slim and under 35 yrs., to date. UB open-minded, kind, intelligent, well-rounded and, if to date, a bottom or versatile. Lee. Box # 4060

HANDSOME, SEXY, HOT ITALIAN MALE 5' 9", 150 lbs., hazel eyes, dark hair, moustache, 30 y.o. bottom seeks handsome muscular slim Black male whose romantic, sensual, loving and aggressive for possible lover. You won't be disappointed. Willing to relocate for the right guy. Box # 2058

WELL BUILT, WELL HUNG BGM ISO GOOD BOTTOM SEX. 28 y.o. uncut top wants your bottom for long, deep sessions. I'm hung thick and versatile. If this sounds good to you, give me a call. Box # 1004

I AM TALL, BROWN AND HANDSOME. I am 50 years old. I seek an Afrocentric Brother not hung up on age. If you are sincere and honest, give me a call. Box # 2144

VERY HANDSOME BLONDE/BLUE-EYED GWM BOTTOM, great body and BB; seeks masculine, aggressive and very well-hung Black Top. I'm very sexual and sensual; love it hot/hard or long/slow. Dark, over 40 and hung HUGE A+++! My mouth and ass NEVER disappoint. Box # 1080

TOP GBM, 33, 5' 8", 160 LBS. 9" HANDSOME. You: 24+ in shape, attractive light skin bottom, looking for companion and possible relationship. Box # 4040

ATTRACTIVE GWM BOTTOM, 38, 5' 10", 163 LBS., VERY ORAL, big round tight butt, intelligent, affectionate professional with a sense of humor, seeks GBM top, 30-45, muscular and macho, goal-oriented, (hung big and uncut A+). I seek and give honesty, good sex and true affection. Box # 3015

STOP THE BULLSHIT! Whatever happened to all U so-called men that claim U R looking for a good bottom. I am a mature, intelligent, masculine BM in search of a Top. I love romance, jazz, to mention a few. Also safe sex and relationship oriented. Box # 1001

FAT BOTTOM GUYS. Let's scream the night away on, around and outside the bed. Race open. Age open. HIV-. I'm 6', 240 lbs. Mid-Wilshire area. Box # 1352

CARAMEL COLORED BLACK MALE, NICE BODY, NICE EYES and a pair of lips that can make the right MAN very happy! I'm looking for someone who loves kissing and who has a clean bubble butt for tossing all night. Interested? Call me! Box # 1032

FUN LOVING MEDIUM BUILD ITALIAN MALE who loves nature, entertainment and togetherness. ISO a black male without a giant ego who enjoys the simple pleasures of life and loving. Be forewarned; I spoil my lover with love, caring and kindness, but believe it's a two-way street. Love, Tony. Box # 4077

TAKE ME. BG MASCULINE BOTTOM. I am a Black male 39 years old. Looking for a good-looking, aggressive black male top between 25-39, well hung, who knows what he's doing with this bottom. I want to meet someone who likes to go to the movies and to spend quality time at home. For I am tired of meeting men in bars. So if you are the one, please let me hear from you. I will answer you back. Box # 2141

VERY HANDSOME CLEAN-CUT WHITE BOY, nice lean build, looking for dark, hung. muscular, Black Top who's ready for just about anything. I'm wild and ready to party. Box # 2147

ATTRACTIVE BLACK MASCULINE MAN, EX-MILITARY, 37 y.o., 5' 10", 165 lbs., slim muscular body, medium brown complexion who prefers being a bottom, seeks masculine, aggressive top Black in-shape brothers who pack 8 1/2 or more of long/thick pipe (and know how to use it), for safe, clean, erotic fun. Hairy A+. Let's talk. Box # 1290

VERY MUSCULAR WHITE DUDE, INCREDIBLY HUNG 12 3/4" x 7 1/2", looking for black studs hung my size or bigger! No B.S.—Serious only. Josh Box # 2123

THIS MASCULINE, ATTRACTIVE, BALD-HEADED BROTHER WANTS TO FUCK AND SUCK YOU ALL NIGHT LONG. I'm 5' 10", 165 lbs., in shape. If you're real hot, call me. Box # 1185

HOPELESS ROMANTIC GBM, 31, 6' 1", 145 LBS., fun-loving and caring. Enjoys quiet romantic nights and cuddling. Seeks serious-minded individual for fun, friendship and/or possible relationship. Box # 1186

WANTED: HANDSOME CENTERFOLD, VERY BUILT, MUSCULAR MEN, no fats. I want to stroke you up if you don't mind. I have a beautiful smile, sensitive and shy. Maybe you can break me in in more than just one way. Please respond. Box # 1312

SEEKING HANDSOME, GBM BODY-BUILDER, 30, WHOSE AD WAS IN THE SPRING EDITION OF SBC. You were box #4029. I'm 29, GBM, masculine, 5' 10", 185 lbs, and also work out. If you hook up with me, you would not have to settle. Box # 4070

ISO LONG(ISH?) HAIRED WHITE MALE. Me: Non-stereotypical Black Male Top. Tall, masculine, nice looking, romantic, monogamous, emotionally available, drug-drink-smoke-free, spiritual, professional. Regular guy into sports, music, people, intimacy. Physical performance not required. Age, type open. Prefer HIV-, cut, smooth, masculine, but very open! Box # 4067

BOTTOM ISO TOP BLK MAN. Me: Italian, 40, 5' 2", 130 lbs., well built, light brown hair, green eyes. You: Blk, total top who likes to have his dick sucked and loves to fuck. Well-endowed a must. Ciao. Box # 1351

XTREMELY MASCULINE BLACK MALE—VERY ATTRACTIVE, 28 y.o., 6', 190 lbs. Well built, employed and very independent. ISO Latin/Hispanic Cholo type with similar characteristics, for definite possible relationship. Should be HIV+ and, like me, healthy & versatile. Outy!! Box # 1051

BIG GOOD LOOKING WHITE BODYBUILDER/MUSICIAN seeks relationship with big Black man who likes being on top. I'm 6 ft. 210 lbs., hairy, nice smooth bubble butt. You be muscular/ chunky/ thick/ masculine. Please call. Box # 1011

SLIM, YOUNG GBM, 18, I'm 5' 10", 137 lbs., black wavy hair, slender build. I love romance, very sensitive, caring, quiet but strong, and loving. Seeking another SLIM GBM or GHM for a serious, honest relationship; someone who is not into games and knows what they want, preferably under 25 yrs. old. Box # 1281

HIP-HOP LOVERS. BAGGY CLOTHES HOMEBOY ONLY. WHAT'S UP! I'm 24. 5' 8", 150, gay Japanese male N2 hip-hop music n' clothing, movies, gym. UB young, masculine, attractive. Lorenz Tate type A+ (not nec.) Box # 1046

BM, 30, LIGHT SKIN, MUSCULAR TOP, 6', 190 LBS., WITH A FAT NINE seeking light/light brown muscular/masculine bottom(s) for hot sessions. I'm looking for a good ride. If you're a freak, leave a message. Box number # 1127

HANDSOME & ROMANTIC TOP. A 30 years old Brother, 6 ft., 165 lbs., HIV-, is seeking a romantic Brother in his 30's for candle light dinners, theater, quiet evenings of invigorating conversation and much more. Box # 2028

HOT MASTER NEEDED TO ADMINISTER STRICT DISCIPLINE, spankings, dildos, enemas, fucking. Any age. GWM, 45, Be creative. I need it. Hard! Box # 3043

ATTRACTIVE, SLIM TIGHT BOTTOM BGM SEEKS WELL-ENDOWED BGM TOP. I'm 31 y.o., 5' 9", 148 lbs. and looking to give it up. Box # 1325

GBM, 35, 5' 11", 175 LBS., HIV-, ATTRACTIVE, SWIMMER'S BODY. Looking for GBM between 30-40. Someone in-shape, attractive, honest and not afraid to love another Black man. Serious callers only. Box # 1012

33 Y.O. SLIM HUNG HORNY MEXICAN W/PARTNER seeks other Latin couples or singles for friendship & fun. Must be handsome, masculine, in-shape, HIV- & between 21-36. Box # 2047

GBM, 27, 6 FT., 200 LBS., ATTRACTIVE, very crazy sense of humor, light beard, masculine looking, ISO a Top Black man only, for the times of your life. You should be very masculine, love dogs & have a sense of humor. Box # 2079

VERY GOOD-LOOKING GBM TOP, 34 YEARS OLD, who believes in loving and caring relationships. Very nice body, 5' 9 1/2", 170 lbs., 9", ISO that loving relationship. I want to build that relationship with that someone very special 27-32 years old. Black, white, Asian. I'll love you and respect you always!!! Box # 1242

GBM HIV+ NON-SYMPTOMATIC, 5' 5", 136 LBS. 32 Y.O., I'm interested in music, movies, dancing, reading, singing and a real meaningful relationship only. Any race. Within my similar body form. Box # 3012

SEXY SENSUAL PASSIONATE NATIVE ITALIAN MAN, 28, OLIVE SKIN, dark hair & eyes, attractive, lean, cut, dancer body (but I am NOT a dancer), predominantly bottom, ISO attractive, intelligent, strong dominant black TOP (ages 27-35) for bedtime action, fun, friendship and maybe much much more. Box # 1334

GWM, 49, PROFESSIONAL, FINANCIALLY INDEPENDENT, ISO self-supporting, 18-50, for communication, friendship, fun and adventure. Relationship a possibility. Ethnic a plus, humor a must. Reply, don't be shy. Giving and taking oral action, massage and cuddling important. Box # 4068

BGM, 5' 4", 135 LBS. CARAMEL, ATTRACTIVE, KIND, no attitude, versatile, attractive, intelligent and independent. Seeks BGM or Latino with similar attributes. San Fernando Valley. Box # 4039

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. NOW HERE'S WHERE IT IS.

BM, 25 YEARS OLD, 5' 9", 165 LBS. TOP, looking for Bottom, 18-25 years, for serious commitment. Masculinity is mandatory. No fakes. Box # 2045

MARRIAGE ANYONE? BGM, 39 years young, Taurus, HIV+ asymptomatic, fun loving, humorous, business oriented, attractive, looking for soul mate, friend, lover & business partner to create an exciting life together. I'm tired of the bar scene and want someone who enjoys the beach, movies, working out, skating & spending quality time with someone who wants the best out of life. You should be employed or financially stable, attractive, endowed, athletic, over 6 ft. tall a plus (but not necessary), spiritually connected and affectionate. I would eventually want to be married, with a ring, house with white picket fence, the works! If this is you, I look forward to your call and meeting you real soon. Box # 1317

HANDSOME AND HAIRY HIV- GWM, 190 lbs., seeks GBM HIV- Top that's honest, hung and horny, for a hot fun time & possible relationship. Call Gary. Westside Beach area. Box # 2102

TALL, SLENDER BOTTOM WITH DREADS, has tight bubble buns longing to be pried wide open or deep plunged. Has a gag-free, deep throat who can suck and fuck all night. Looking for another wild brother who can't do without sex. Make me sweat. Make me forget my X. Box # 1266

PROUD BOTTOM BM, 36, 5' 10", 165 LBS., handsome, ethnically conscious and masculine. I seek tall BM, 40's, fit and proud to be black. Or short BM, physically fit, proud, big feet. Pride in heritage a must! no fems or obese. Older brothers preferred (40's). Box # 1264

BEAUTIFUL BLACK MAN WANTS SLIM LATINO for love. For Life. HIV-. Box # 1324

YOU MUST BE BLACK. African American Brothers are the tigers I've always dreamt about. I'm looking for a Hot Real Man. With hardbody. Be Top and give nice warm passionate Love and Friendship to the Best Everlasting Serious Relationship. Me: From Africa. 24 y/o, 5' 6", 136 'bs., slim, good shape, nice body. Clean. New in L.A. Hold me before it's too late! Box # 1293

LOOKING FOR A BLK MAN 35-40 with a nice body, who wants a nice young boy and that has a nice body and stable home and enjoys outings. I'm 30 yrs. old, 170 lbs., well hung and Black. You must be versatile in the relationship, manly and enjoy hot sex. Box # 1307

TOP GBM, 40, 5/ 8", 165 LBS., ATTRACTIVE, IN SHAPE. You: 30 +, in shape and attractive, masculine, nice big bubble butt a plus. I fuck in Silverlake area. Box # 1322

SPIRITUAL BM, 6' 2", 205 LBS., HIV+, HANDSOME, LOVING, bottom mostly. You be 6' +, over 25, nice, spiritual, trusting, sexually top, nice looking, groomed. Full of love, faithful. No fems, W/D or fats. I'm hot and ready! Box # 1344

CUTE PUERTO RICAN AND BLACK GUY, 5' 11", 150 LBS., 35 y.o., HIV-, little on the fem side. Would like to meet handsome, versatile guy/any race, 25 to 35 y.o., for fun, movies, dancing, etc. No drugs. Serious only. Orange County Beach area please. Box #2110

RUFFNECK BASTARD WANTED. Me: Young BLK man, 5' 7", 27" w, 8" cut dick, lean, defined swimmer's body. Bottom. You: Under 6', workout body, flat stomach, 8" or more cut dick, Top homeboy/Latino skinhead, who's down for some ruff and rugged shit. Box # 2259

SINGLE AND SEXY HOT CHOCOLATE FLORIDA MAN, 5' 6", 145 lbs., seeks Black male for friendship, fun and/or sex. I'm endowed front and back. Leave a message. No fems please. Box # 1331

ATTRACTIVE, MASCULINE, MUSCULAR BM BOTTOM WITH NICE HAIRY BUBBLE BUTT seeks a very manly masculine well hung BM Topman who likes to lay some pipe. I live in Georgia but will visit L.A. soon. East meets West. Box # 1289

GHM, 24, BLK/GRN, SHAVED HEAD, STOCKY BUILD, 5' 11", shy, very down to earth, easy going, ISO masculine men, BLKs, Puerto Ricans & Latinos, 25-35, for dating and hopefully more. No games. Serious replies only. Not a sex ad. Box # 4064

GBM, 30, 5' 8", 155 LBS, enjoys tennis, movies, theater and quiet, intimate exchanges. Fresh from out East seeking someone to introduce me to the West. Box # 2098

MATURE EXTRA ENDOWED BUDDY wanted by 40's BM, 6', 195, into french, videos & J/O/ Race & weight okay. Inland Empire area. Ready for long hot sessions. Box # 2118

GBM, 32, 6' 1", 160 LBS. I AM MARRIED but looking for serious minded part time love. I enjoy music, TV and long walks on the beach. You be in good shape, open minded, rough trade. Bi okay, strong willed and minded. Versatile a big plus. Must be discreet. Box # 1286

SEX GAM, 20'S, SMOOTH, TAN, ATHLETIC, ISO guys under 30 for friendship, fun & more...please be sincere & down 2 earth. Into R&B, running, politics & more...call me! Box # 1336

VERY WELL-ENDOWED, VERY ATTRACTIVE, CUT, VERSATILE, HIV-, 24 YEAR OLD BLACK MAN, 6', 170 lbs., great long slim body, great smile, great personality and great sex. ISO HIV-, very well-endowed, very attractive and personable Black men, 25-40, with good bodies (no over-weights) and great sexual abilities (a little on the freaky side is not bad). I am into hot, safe sexual encounters. I am not into games, flakes, fems and/or irresponsibility. Let's hook up soon. You will not be disappointed. Box # 2122

BGM, 35, MASCULINE, MUSCULAR TOP, 5'11", 170 lbs., HIV-, seeks well-endowed GBM bottoms between 35-50 for sexual friction and casual friendship. Box # 1169

WANTED: BLACK OR PUERTO RICAN BOTTOMS. Hot black top seeks hot hairy-ass bottom body builder. If you are hot, hairy, horny and a freak, leave a message. Box # 1190

DARK WARRIORS ONLY. Seeking a GBM dark skinned warrior. I'm a hot GBM bottom, 21, cat brown eyes, light brown skinned, 5' 5", medium build. I enjoy movies, dancing, dinners, music and collecting Teddy bears. I'm seeking a GBM top, 21-35, dark skinned a plus. If you want a new friend, call. Box # 1181

32, 6', 175 EXTRA FINE SMOOTH BLOND BOY PUSSY seeks extra fat horse dick to ride. I'm 100% masculine. U.B. 100% top, verbal, nasty a.h. and hungry to fuck some butt. Got hot fantasies to explore. Let's go there. Call now! Box # 3045

NICE LOOKING BM, 6' 1", 205 LBS. VERY BIG LEGS, XXXCALFS. I need BIG DICK TRADE to go deep into my pussy. Only 95% tops. Be good looking, professional, clean, nice, Black, P. Rican, Cuban, Latin. I'm manly and fem. No queens or fems, or under 9" Box # 1252

CARIBBEAN NATIVE: SUCCESSFUL, CUTE, FRENCH-SPEAKING, 34, 5' 9", 140 LBS. New to L.A., into cycling, swimming, travel and romance. Looking for a special, independent, masculine topman, any age, who appreciates the finer things i life. Homeboy or cholo type will be considered. Box # 1133

AFFECTIONATE, EASY-GOING, FUN TO BE WITH GAY ASIAN MALE seeks straight-acting or straight man of color for friendship and maybe much more. Box # 2090

HANDSOME, ROMANTIC BLACK PASSIONATE TOP MAN. Black male, 6'1, 190 lbs., looking for a hot Black man with nice body who wants really nice, warm and passionate love made to him. Box # 1026

W. FRENCH MAN ISO BIG BLACK TOP. I'm a great cook (including soul), healthy and playful, 5' 5", 160 lbs., 43 y.o., into arts & culture, walks, biking, roller skates, Star Trek, computers. You are intelligent, not2hairy, black non-smoker any age, HIV+ OK. Let's be friends; you can become my Prince Charming! Box # 1239

BLACK MALE, 6' 1", 39 YEARS OLD. I'm a bottom who is looking for a well hung cock on a masculine male to work on this "hot" ass all night long. If this sounds good to you, give me a call. Box # 2089

GBM, HOT, MASCULINE, INDEPENDENT, SHY, sexually passive bottom with potential, seeks Black, aggressive gentleman for intimacy and fun. Hairy chest and hung a plus. Looks unimportant. Boy, call me! I'll cook. Box # 1333

HOT WHITE SOUL MAN SEEKS HANDSOME HORSE HUNG TOP. Me: 6', 170, 8", smooth, muscular, butch, passionate, bottom beauty. UB muscular, masculine & hung huge to satisfy my hungry hole & deep throat. Equipped playroom available. Be cool. Call. Box # 1272

SINGLE AND FREE. I am a 30 year old unattached Top who seeks a Black Bottom, ages 29 to 31, for friendship, fun and/or sex. Box # 1273

ATTRACTIVE BM, 65, 5' 11", 152 LBS., HIV- ISO young, attractive, lean TOP who wants to find out how tight and satisfying a senior citizen's buns are. Box # 1063

WANTED: VERY LARGE, HARD, ROUNDED BUNS with smooth, muscular body, masculine, HIV-, easy-going, for friendship or more. Me: Hispanic, 5' 10", 180 lbs., down-to-earth, athletic body, outdoors, masculine, HIV-, well-endowed. Box # 1341

2 ATTRACTIVE, WELL-HUNG YOUNG MEN 23 & 19 y.o., In/Out. Looking to perform tag team for any serious persons with finances. A time to remember. Tops and bottoms are welcomed. Call for hot young sex. Box # 2130

ATTRACTIVE, DARK-SKINNED BGM BOTTOM DEEP THROATER wants to service a well-endowed Black TOP. I am 30 years old, slim, 5' 8", 150 lbs. and discreet. Call me. Box # 1115

SERIOUS, AFFECTIONATE, MASCULINE, HEALTHY, PROFESSIONAL BGM 5' 10 1/2", 190 lbs. Motorcycle riding, camping, weight lifting, contact sports, movies and gardening a favorite. Seeks other BGM with similar interests between 40 and 60 for friendship and possible relationship. Box # 1076

PASSIONATE AFFECTIONATE GAY ASIAN MALE wanting to meet straight-straight acting, real dark and light-skin African Americans or anyone of African decent. Box # 2038

A BOTTOM SEEKING A TOP. Black gay male 39 years old, 6' 1", 200 lbs. I am looking for a Top 25-37, down to earth, loving, caring, romantic. Someone intelligent & understanding who loves to get down all night long. Please leave a message. Box # 3003

VERY CUTE SALVADOREAN/LATINO, 5' 7", light brown eyes, curly black hair. hairy body, nice tanned color. I am stable and would like to meet Black and Latino guys (Central Americans, Caribeños) with similar qualities. Box # 2039

PASSIONATE, STABLE, TOGETHER WM seeking a mate. Preferably GBM. I'm 30 y.o., 5' 8", 155 lbs., attractive, sexy & a bottom. Sincere, intelligent, attractive, sexy, no games, none-scene type of individual wanted. Seek and you shall find—Box # 2020

ATTRACTIVE HISPANIC BOTTOM, 44, medium build, with love buns, seeks well hung Black Top man with very thick 8" or more for prolong hot times on a regular basis. Make me take it in any way you can deliver it. Box # 1096

VGL WM, 30, 6', 192 LBS into very muscular, intelligent, fun, affectionate, communicative Black men. I am articulate, witty, fun, with a good sense of humor, into working out, music, movies and friends. I am a good catch and you should be too. Box # 2113

I AM A VERY AFRICENTRIC BROTHER, age 49, 215 lbs., handsome and well educated. Seeking an Africentric Brother who is self-loving, sensitive, and caring! Age not an issue. no smokers or drugs. If you love Black people, give me a call. Hotep. Box # 2121

BG ACTIVIST,40, HIV+, SEEKS SAME. Looking for someone who enjoys life and love. Must live in the Sacramento area. Peace. Box # 2056

SMOOTH, SLENDER BLACK MAN wants to explore domination / submission, discipline / control, daddy / son & leather. Box # 1061

VERY HANDSOME, WELL-ENDOWED BGM, 24 years old, 170 lbs., caramel complexion, long, lean, great body, seeking handsome, well-endowed Black men only between 24 and 35 years old. Must be in-shape and like to have a good safe time. No fats or fems. Box # 2088

GORGEOUS, SHAPELY, INTELLIGENT, EDUCATED, HOT-CHOCOLATE TRANSGENDER, 5' 4", 125 lbs. ISO tall, well endowed, intelligent and aggressive black man with high self-esteem, career goals and good love-making techniques. Call me and tell me about yourself. Box # 1261

GBM, 34, WITH CEREBRAL PALSY, who loves life & all it has to offer. Looking for friendship and/or possible relationship. HIV+. Box #1188

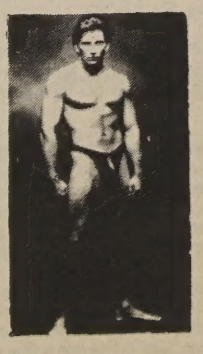
HOT MEXICAN MALE, 41 y/o, 5' 9", 190 lbs. I'm very masculine, honest and friendly. Seek males 30/50 y/o. No drugs, no smoking. Give me a call. Box # 1069

ATTRACTIVE, FOREIGN WHITE MALE, 35, 5' 10", 180 LBS., muscular, discreet but fun, reliable, green/blue eyes, loving, seeks smart, extremely muscular and thick Black gentleman, over 220 lbs. of beef, to work out together and have a good friendship. Try me. Box # 2060

THROAT INSPECTIONS! Hot beefy handsome bi white/Anglo Texan stud (43) with one truly gorjuicy multi-loaded everhard 7" cut tool ISO very talented, hungry, service-oriented cocksucker(s): any race or age! Looks unimportant. Ability is!! Service me at my own places in Long Beach and Palm Springs. "Mac" Box # 2091

ROMANTIC BROTHER WANTING TO MEET SOMEONE REAL. Me: 29 y.o., 5' 11", nice looking Brother. I'm strong, kind-hearted, sensitive and self-assured. Reaching out to another Brother who's real, who wants a lover, but has the patience to gain a friend first. You: A nice looking Brother, mature, with same interests. Box # 1189

VERY GOOD-LOOKING, SOPHISTICATED CARIBBEAN, 33, 6' 2", lean 162 lbs., tight bottom. ISO rugged, muscular, open, dark, Black or Latino TOP man with HUGE meat, preferably hairy and under 45, for passionate lovemaking and friendship without games. Call me. You'll be very happy. Box # 1298



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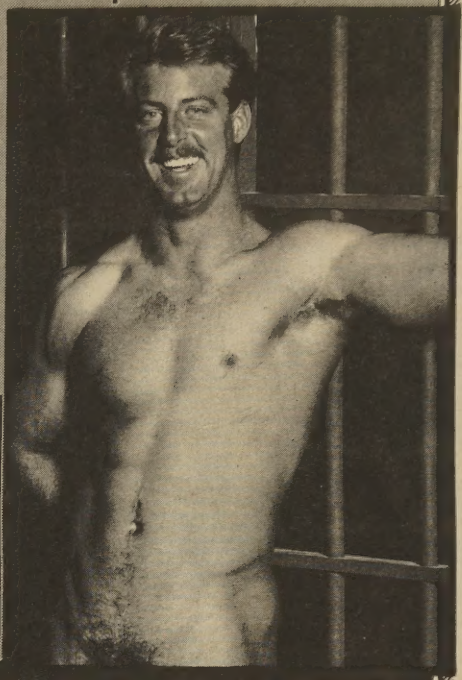

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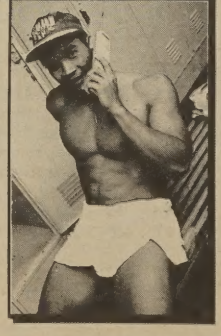

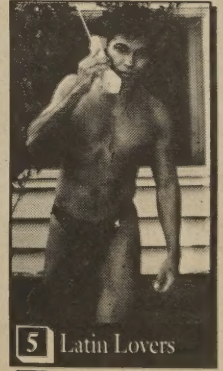

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ME: ATTRACTIVE BROWN SKIN BGM TOP, 30, SWIMMER'S BODY, 5' 10", 165 LBS, laid back, secure and adventurous. You: Black, Puerto Rican, 26-35, 5' 7" to 6' 1". For friendship, companionship and sensual good times. Box # 1170

VERY CUTE SINGLE HISPANIC MALE, 23 Y.O., 5' 9", 185 lbs., light brown eyes. Looking for people to go out and have fun with. I like dancing, movies and all that fun stuff. If interested leave a message. Box # 1255

TIRED OF MEETING GUYS WHO CAN'T TAKE ALL YOUR HUGE COCK? GWM, hot and nasty, likes it deep and hard! 5' 9", 150 lbs., BR/BL, sweet ass, deep throat suction. You—aggressive GBM, in good shape who loves to pound a tight white ass! Must be hung thick and long. Box # 1270

GHM, 47 Y.O., 5' 7", 145 LBS., ATTRACTIVE, SMART, DOWN TO EARTH & EASY GOING ISO masculine, secure Top GBM 40 y.o. or older. Call. Box # 4026

HUNGRY FOR ADVENTURE & SOMETHING DIFFERENT? Masculine black man, young 40's, 175 lbs., in search of other men who R into Leather. UB masculine Top, well-endowed, honest & sincere. No fats, fems or drugs. Safe fun only please.Box # 1346

HANDSOME, MUSCULAR, GBM, 35. I'm 6' 2", 235 lbs., shy, masculine, honest, disease-free and strictly a bottom. UB a Top, tall, hung, passionate and ready to fuck me silly. Age & race open. Bi or straight fine with me. Box # 1006

WM, 50, NICE LOOKING PROFESSIONAL, VERSATILE, seeks straight acting B/or HM versatile, super hung that is warm, honest & employed for good time and possible relationship. Enjoy outdoors, beach, mountains and just staying home. Box # 3031

GOOD HEAD FROM ATTRACTIVE, MATURE BLACK MAN, light skin, 6', 175 lbs. I want to meet top man to service on a regular basis. Box # 3033

NIGGAZ ONLY. No wan'na be bitches, fat motherfuckers, bathhouse hoes, skinny or fuck limited people. Us: sexy big dick niggaz. U: fine, deep juice booty niggaz with warm mouths and long, thick tongues. Leave your number so we can fuck you down. Box # 2077

HANDSOME, BLACK 33 Y.O. DEEP THROAT. I love to give oral satisfaction to the right masculine Black man. Call me for long night sessions. Box # 1241

HOT AND HORNY TOP. Black man, 31, 5'11, 175 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, smooth toned body, big cut dick. Into good times and romance. Box # 1210

EDUCATED, CULTURED 6' 2", 198 LBS GENTLEMAN 45 years old seeks mature professional 25-40 with similar physical and intellectual qualifications, interested in music, arts, exercise and totally mellow in the bedroom as well as the salon! HIV- or + OK. Romanticism essential. Box # 2055

DEEP CHOCOLATE MAN Sexy, 5' 6", 150 lbs., endowed front and back, wants GBM to kick it with. Leave a message and tell me what you want. No fems pls. Box # 1199

HOT HORNY BLACK MEN WANTED BY BLOND GWM. Let my mouth and tongue worship every part of you—cock, balls, asshole, armpits, toes, Adam's apple, etc. Call. You'll enjoy! Box # 4057

GOOD-LOOKING CARAMEL BLACK MALE, 5' 10", 145 lbs., 38 y.o. bottom looking for one good top man between 23-43 for friendship, possible relationship and much, much more. I like movies, long drives, music, dancing and cooking. Are you aggressive, spontaneous, personable and know how to please? Let's kick it. Call me Box # 1197

TIRED OF CRUIZE SPOTS LIKE PARKS, BOOKSTORES, ETC.? Cum and let's all 20 of us do it together and fuck the night away. We get together once a month. Tell all your fit, in-shape and muscular friends to cum join in. Leave a message with your phone #. Box # 1135

ROMANTIC CUTE GBM TOP, 23, 5' 11", HIV+, IN SHAPE, GOATEE, ISO cute, in shape gay Black, Latin, Cuban or Puerto Rican male 21-32, HIV- bottom for friendship/relationship. N2 movies, dancing, holding hands and walks on the beach. Goatee A+. No fats or fems. Box # 2153

I'M A 36 Y.O. BLACK WARRIOR IN NEED of any mature, well-endowed masculine Black King (above 22 years) to lead me into your most desired fantasy. If you're that big Dick Black King who could serve me right (from the back), call me and let your warrior please you your way. Black well-hung Kings only. Box # 1269

ATTRACTIVE 30 Y.O. LATIN MALE 5' 7", 140 lbs., who enjoys swimming, working out, movies and all kinds of music ISO Latin guys 18-35 for fun and romance. Box # 1089

VERY ATTRACTIVE BLACK/HISPANIC, 21 YEARS OLD, 5' 11", 170 LBS., light skin, boyish, seeks black, masculine, muscular, attractive father figure or big brother type 4 a serious sexual and loving relationship. U must be clean. No drugs, fats, fems or flakes. Dark skin A+. Box # 1053

KIND & AFFECTIONATE BLACK MAN, 38 YEARS OLD, seeks same for good sex, monogamy, fun times & more (hopefully long term). You must be willing to spend quality time with an intelligent, goal oriented Black man. Serious only. Box # 2248

MASCULINE PRO ATHLETE. Very Good-looking, 6 ft, 190 lbs., Jock, Blonde, Straight Acting, Toned Body, Hot-Hard Bubble Butt, Bi-Curious, Aggressive Bottom & Versatile. Not Into Bar Scene. Seeks: Masculine, Athletic, Well Hung Jock, In-Shape Hot Black Man. Sincere Only. Don't Pass This Up. Box # 1105

BM TOP ISO WM FOR MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP. Long Hair? Great! But okay from preppy to professional to midlength to shaved. Depends on the person. Me: Tall, masculine, attractive, mustache/goatee. drug, drink, smoke-free; spiritual, into sports, music. Prefer HIV-, cut, clean-shaven, non-smoker, but open. Can you say "COMMITMENT"? Box # 4067

LONG BEACH SEXY HISPANIC BOTTOM SEEKS 10"+ BGM or any race, monster meats in Long Beach; 21-40. I can take it. I'm 28 years old, safe and HIV-. Let's have fun at your place. Peace! Box # 1254

CARIBBEAN NATIVE: SUCCESSFUL, CUTE, French-speaking, 34, 5' 9", 140 lbs, new to L.A., into cycling, swimming, travel and romance. Looking for a special, independent, masculine topman, any age, who appreciates the finer things in life. Homeboy or cholo type will be considered. Box # 1057

MASCULINE GBM IN SEARCH OF HOT TOP LATINOS. Let's burn the sheets! Box # 1348

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT BGM TOP. I'm a 5' 8 ", 150 lb., medium built, HIV-, dark complexion, young-looking professional in my early 40's. ISO a very attractive, nicely built (neither overweight nor underweight) HIV- bottom brother in his 20's or 30's who is not in the closet, insecure or in denial. Box # 1074

CUTE, LIGHT-SKIN BLACK MALE, 21 seeks pretty boys 18-25, any race, for friendship, fun times, exciting night life, great sex. Box # 4051

BIG BUBBLE BUTT BOTTOMS! Me and a host of bubble butt in-shape masculine bottoms would like to invite big pipe dick brothuhs (only) to our monthly fuckfest. Come and fuck us down till we get raw. Answer this ad and you will be fucking some of the best ass in town. We are not and do not want fats, fems, or anything not black. Box # 2151

NON-STEREOTYPICAL NATIVE ITALIAN WHO LOVES TO FUCK AND BE SUCKED. Me: 38 years old, 5' 2", 128 lbs., well built. You: Preferably GBM and insatiable. Fat & fem plz abstain. Box # 3014

HANDSOME, HAIRY BLACK BOTTOM, 5' 10", 160lbs. seeks 6 ft. 2" or taller athletically-built top for friendship, fun and/or a possible relationship. Masculine only. 9" A+. No fats, fems please. Box # 1236

GAY AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALE, HIV+, 28 years old, 145 lbs., 5' 11" tall, very deep dark complexion, with a slender but tone body build. Would like to meet Gay Middle Eastern, Hispanic and Latin men between the ages of 25-35 for a monogamous slow romantic relationship, quality time and dating. Box # 1228

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT BLACK, DRUG-FREE, SMOKE-FREE TOP, 5' 8", 150 lbs., nice body, nice personality, moustache, ISO attractive, intelligent drug-free/smoke-free bottoms with similar traits who are into romantic sex. Box # 1303

SEXY WHITE BOTTOM BOY, 29, boyish good looks, bedroom blue eyes, with a hungry, warm asshole pussy that would love to open up and out, and wrap my hot pulsating hole tightly around your big black cock. You: 20-45, studly & hung. Guaranteed the ride of your life. Call and leave your number. Box # 4016

HOT HARDBODY TOP SEEKS HOT HARDBODY BOTTOMS for fun, good times and good love making. I'm big, black, beautiful and buff with lots of dick for yo' ass. Call me if you can take it. Box # 1174

A CUTE LATINO WANTED BY GOOD-LOOKING 30 Y.O.LATINO GAY MAN, 140 lbs., 5' 7", into gym, swimming, school, movies, with experience, HIV-, responsible and educated. U same. Outdoors be a gentleman, indoors be wild. no fems, fats or drugs. Call for friendship or more. First timers O.K. Box # 1089

BLACK MALE, 6' 1", 198 LBS. I'm 23 years old, looking for a dominant top to go to the movies and amusement parks with, between 22-35. Also, be at least 6' tall. Looking for friendship & possible relationship. Box # 4052

SBM HUNGRY FOR ADVENTURE & SOMETHING DIFFERENT. U B Top I'll be Bottom. Into fingering, spanking, safe sex. Well-endowed A+. Serious men only. Relationship oriented. No games or b/s. Box # 1230

GWM, 36, 6' 2", 185 LBS., NICE TAN BUBBLE BUTT BOTTOM wants BM uncut muscular Top who likes pounding tight white ass. I love to suck uncut Black cocks (muscles a must) I like to get J/O while getting it. Box # 3030

ATTRACTIVE PROFESSIONAL WHITE MALE, 47, 5' 10", 163 lbs., seeks muscular BM for dating, fun & romance, NS, ND. Box # 2069

FUCK BUDDY WANTED. Hot White Buck, 6' 2", 205 lbs., 46" C, 33" W, 17" A, Bottom, Chunky Clean White Bubble Butt, Masculine, 39, Big Thighs, Seeks TOPS over 35, who are aggressive, Dominant, Safe, freaky and Know what they like. Box # 1221

30 YEAR OLD HALF WHITE, HALF HISPANIC BOTTOM seeks professional GBM top, semi to good physical shape 29 to 45 years old for special monogamous 1 on 1 relationship. Penis size unimportant. I like cute carressable butts. Box # 2067

NEW ADVENTURE IN ALL MALE FUCKING! Black trade (masculine, all shades, hung and versatile) in all positions willing to do whatever it takes to get a piece of U (if you are tall, black, masculine and toned). We want you and your click to come together with ours for a group interlude. Leave a message!. Box #3022

TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME GBM TOP, 24, Intelligent, buff, college senior looking for GBM in good shape, great body and very intelligent, ready to meet and enjoy good company. Box # 1177

SENSUAL, SINCERE, STABLE, SAFE, EASY-GOING, GOOD-LOOKING, VERSATILE, GWM, HIV-, 6', 190 lbs., 45, hairy chest, moustache, greying hair, into gym, health, music, outdoors, art, personal growth, intelligent conversation, romance, mutual respect and lots more, seeks a black man in very good shape and health. Box # 2075

ISO ATTRACTIVE, IN-SHAPE, SEXY BOTTOMS who want it from a good-looking, well-hung 35 year old, 5'11", 170 lbs. dark-skinned black top. If you're good at giving it up, leave some details and some digits. Box # 1058

FOURTH MESSAGE & STILL NO SERIOUS RESPONSE. Where are those serious ones! Gay male, 25, 6 ft, 180 lbs. Blue eyes, honest, independent and fun, seeking available gay male (top). Will someone respond? West Valley. Box # 4024

WHITE BOY, 32, 5' 11", 175 LBS., muscular, lean, bubble butt, bottom, seeks 6' +, 200 lbs. +, strong, dominant BLK master for butt discipline & booty pounding. HIV-, safe sex, serious. I'm yours. Box # 4048

WANTED, ROUGHNECK NIGGAZ. We want you to fuck the shit out of us. You need to be 7 1/2 or bigger, well-built and have a good over-sexed attitude. We do not want nothin' niggaz with nothin' to offer (short dick motherfuckers with attitudes who won't get fucked). Box # 1124

IF YOU NEED A FRIEND I may be just what you're looking for. I believe that the basis for any romantic relationship is friendship. I'm 31 year old, 5' 11", 159 lbs., black and considered attractive. I have a functioning brain and varied interest. I'm sexually versatile. Race is not important. Substance is. Box # 1113

29 YR. OLD ITALIAN, VERY ATTRACTIVE, OLIVE SKIN, BROWN HAIR, SMOOTH SWIMMER'S BODY ISO romantic, attractive Afro-American man 25-35. Top/Bottom irrelevant. Whatever works for you. Fucking is important, but let's go to movies, the beach, dinners. I want a companion, not a piece of meat! Box # 1042

LET'S NUT SIMULTANEOUSLY. Quaff my sultry testicular extract as we awaken innovative passions never depicted by others. We will broadly perforate your expecting aperture. Our utensils of fervor will be enmeshed in your posterior frame tunneling ardently for a far-reaching potent interval of coitus until we all bust a nut simultaneously. If this is your forte, give us notice. Box # 1137

HOT & HORNY TOP Heavy-set SBM, 5'11", 235 lbs., 6 1/2". I am a top who enjoys going out to movies & a good meal. UB masculine, SBM, 5' 10" or above, around 190 lbs., thick or muscular. No queens, excessive obesity or non-blacks. Box # 2151

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING REAL? Healthy, masculine GBM, 6' 3" 220 lbs. and handsome. Seeks honest gay male 23-36 for friendship and possible relationship. I enjoy quiet evenings at home, movies, plays, musicals, concerts, candle light dinners and romantic walks on the beach. Please, no fems. Serious callers only. Box # 1084

GM, 26, 6', 180 LBS. Honest, intelligent and romantic. Love to enjoy life to the fullest. Seeking GM (top) for relationship. Box # 2049

WM, 48, DISTINGUISHED LOOKING, versatile professional, seeking honest, sincere, super hung, versatile, short (5'3" and under) BM for fun and possible relationship. Allen. Box # 1002

ATTRACTIVE WELL-ENDOWED BGM TOP, 24, SLIM MUSCULAR BUILD seeks very discreet, masculine men WHO LOVE TO GET FUCKED for friendship and possible relationship. Age 19-30. Box # 1015

BLACK AND WHITE TOGETHER. Good-looking Gay blond male wants to please that sexy Afro-American male—bi, straight or gay! Call me—You'll like! Box # 4055

ROMANTIC AFRICAN AMERICAN TOP. 31 year old openly gay, attractive, well-endowed, masculine dark skin African American, 5' 11", 165 lbs. Into theater, literature, candle light dinners at home and romantic lovemaking. Serious only please. Box # 4017

NICE LOOKING BGM WANTS TO MAKE LOVE TO A MAN WHO LOVES HIMSELF. I'm 5' 9", 150 lbs., a Malcolm beard and mustache, chocolate complexion, easy-going, self-reliant, masculine and into positive good times. You be good-looking, cool, weight proportional, butch or fem. If your attitude is negative, piss-elegant, superficial and/or pretentious, if you call your brothers niggers and your sisters, friends and acquaintances bitches and faggots, do us both a favor and don't call this proud Black gay man. But if movies make you cry, flowers turn you on and a smile makes your day, let's talk. Sweet and shy is just as good as loud and happy. It's all good. Let there be love. Box # 2032

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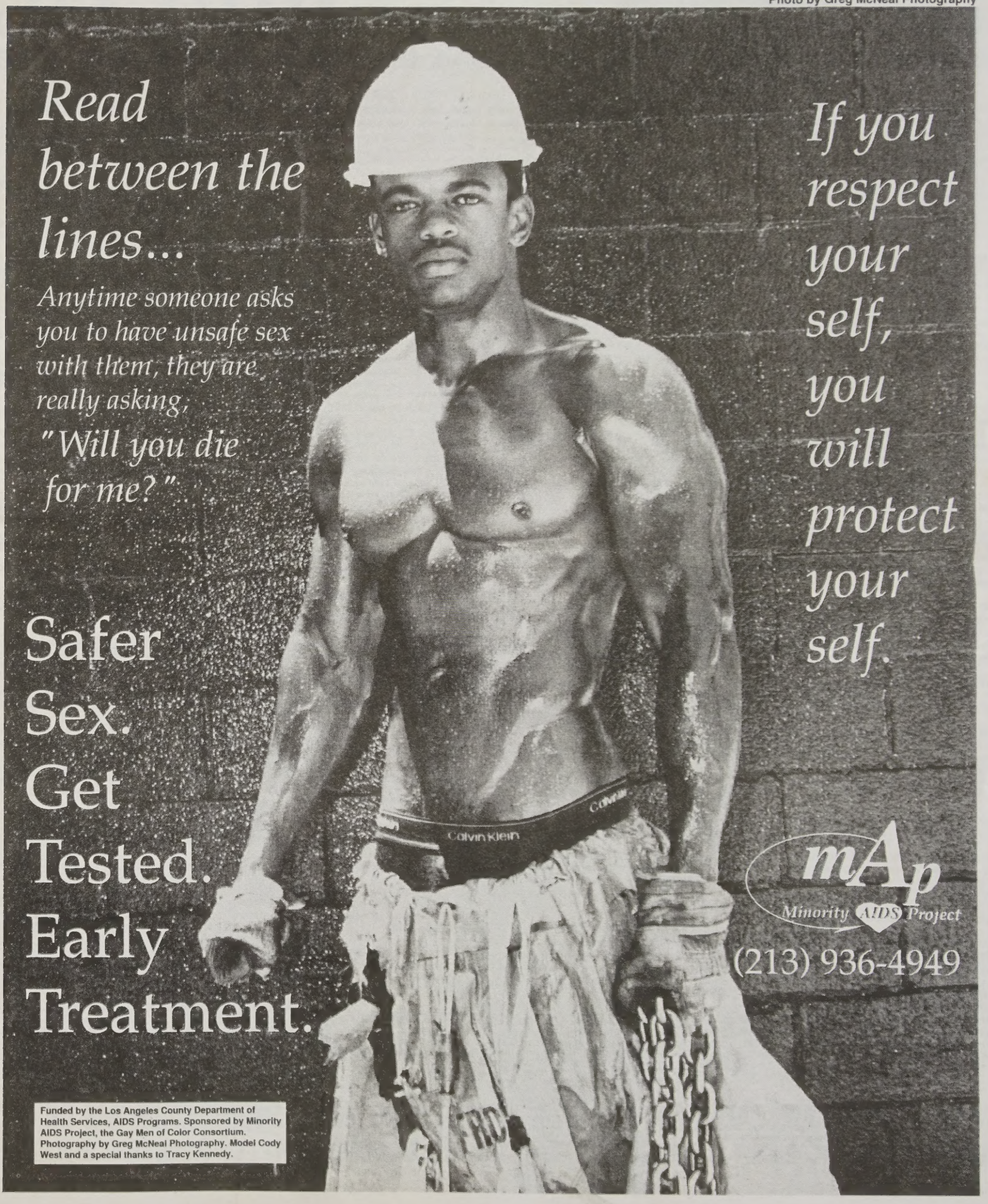
"Will you die for me?"

Photo by Greg McNeal Photography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Minority AIDS Project
(213) 936-4949

Funded by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, AIDS Programs. Sponsored by Minority AIDS Project, the Gay Men of Color Consortium. Photography by Greg McNeal Photography. Model Cody West and a special thanks to Tracy Kennedy.

Man meEt

TO RESPOND TO ADS CALL 1-900-844-4SBC (4722) / $1.45 MIN/$1.95 FIRST MIN. / 18 OR OLDER

SERVICE PROVIDED BY CONCEPT ST. JAMES, INC. / P.O. BOX 3750, L.A., CALIFORNIA 90078 / CUSTOMER SERVICE: 213-733-5661

MASCULINE 39 Y.O. SEEKS SIMILAR. Blk, 200 lbs., 6 Ft., moustache, ponytail, into gym, kids, love, friendship, sex, feet, film and self-knowledge. Be real, honest, masculine and open—and I could be had. HIV, white, Hispanic okay. Box # 1024

WHITE MALE, 31, BROWN HAIR, BLUE EYES looking for relationship-minded black male age 30-45. I want to meet someone who likes to read, go to movies and spend quality time at home. Tired of meeting men in bars. Will answer all. Box # 2029

NEEDED: TALL, HANDSOME, SEXY, SMOOTH, MUSCULAR AND WELL-HUNG GBM 18-35. Slide your hot Black rod up this tight white boy pussy 6', 185 lbs. Can you handle it? Play with my ass while your homeboys watch, then squirt me down. Either pleasure, you choose! Box # 4021

GBM, 26, SEEKS FATHER FIGURE. You: 35 to 40 y.o., 6 ft. or taller, muscular, bald A+, versatile. Me: 6 ft., slim, muscular. No fats. No fems. Seeking BM or HM. N2 reading, music & w8 lifting. Box # 1041

TUFF, BUFF, BLONDE JOCK—TOTAL MAN. Bench press 270 lbs., leg press 650 lbs., 17 1/2" arms, 46" chest with 2" deep cut between my pecks, totally straight acting! Blow Super huge Loads! Looking for a true Black horse—11 or more inches who thinks he's man enough and tuff enough to handle me. Talk is cheap! I haven't met a Black man big enough or Tuff enough yet who could handle me. Go for it if your man enough!!! Box # 1283

HOT AND HANDSOME BLACK MALE TOP, 29, 6' 2". I like fucking. I'm equipped to service you. Black attractive bottoms in need of good loving done the right way. Call. Be mine tonight. Let's talk. Box # 2026

NO QUEENS. BLACK MEN ONLY WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR. I'm 22 and looking for someone real, if nothing more, a friend. Give me a call. Tall, bald heads & big dicks a plus but not necessary. Someone real is. Box # 1305

HOT BLACK MALE BOTTOM 5'9", 34 y.o., 150 lbs, in search of hot masculine top who is well endowed, 18-40 something for...(+). Box # 1022

HOT WHITE SOUL MAN SEEKS HANDSOME HORSE HUNG TOP. Me: 6', 170, 8", smooth, muscular, butch, passionate, bottom beauty. UB muscular, masculine & hung huge to satisfy my hungry hole & deep throat. Equipped playroom available. Be cool. Call. Box # 1272

LOOKING FOR GOOD HEAD? 42 year old black male, 5'6", 150 lbs., passable looks, F/A; No/GR. U B black, oriental, Hispanic, No. African, Puerto Rican, Egyptian, any man of color. Over 6' tall or under 5' short & uncut a +. Cock size unimportant. U must B clean, no drugs, pros, fats or fems. My place or? Days & some evenings. Very, very discreet—UB2. U won't B sorry. L.A. area. No games, no head trips. I'M GOOD. Box # 1012

ATTRACTIVE, ROMANTIC BGM WANTS TO HOLD YOU TIGHT. I'm 5' 11", 155 lbs., and I'm looking for someone solid and able. Box # 2025

BGM, 32, LIGHT SKIN, LOOKING FOR A HOMEBOY TYPE. I been a top lately. Been feeling like I want to be on the bottom. Still, he has to be attractive and manly for a possible long term relationship. I like a man that is possessive and passionate with no games. Box # 1240

DARK SKIN, FULL BEARD, 6' 1". Looking for a Bodybuilder. You won't be disappointed. Box # 1003

BIG BLACK DICK LIKES TO FUCK. I'm a 25 yr. old dark skinned black man with 9 1/2 fat inches looking for a sweet bottom that likes it big, thick and slow. Box # 3002

27 Y.O. INTELLECTUAL GWM, 5' 11", 170 lbs., green eyes, looking to meet sincere, affectionate and emotionally available GBM for friendship. Laguna Beach area. Box # 3023

WASSUP ROUGHNECK BROTHERS? Are you very straight acting and discreet? So Am I. Let's talk. Must be straight acting and black. No fems! Box # 1064

CUTE HEAVYSET HUGGABLE & LOVEABLE TEDDY-BEAR 24. 5' 7 1/2" Bi B male, very spiritual, clean-cut & HIV-. That's a fact...ISO Bi GBM who is nice & good-looking, for possible relationship, who's not afraid of honesty & truth in this life we live. Do I have any taker's?? Well if this sounds like you & you're 5' 8" and up, spiritual minded, HIV- & no drugs at all, 24-31 but not definitive, give me a call. His peace be with you. Peace. Box # 1219

MATURE EXTRA ENDOWED BUDDY wanted by 40's BM, 6', 195, into french, videos & J/O/ Race & weight okay. Inland Empire area. Ready for long hot sessions. Box # 2118

DARK WARRIORS ONLY. Seeking a GBM dark skinned warrior. I'm a hot GBM bottom, 21, cat brown eyes, light brown skinned, 5' 5", medium build. I enjoy movies, dancing, dinners, music and collecting Teddy bears. I'm seeking a GBM top, 21-35, dark skinned a plus. If you want a new friend, call. Box # 1181

W. FRENCH MAN ISO BIG BLACK TOP. I'm a great cook (including soul), healthy and playful, 5' 5", 160 lbs., 43 y.o., into arts & culture, walks, biking, roller skates, Star Trek, computers. You are intelligent, not2hairy, black non-smoker any age, HIV+ OK. Let's be friends; you can become my Prince Charming! Box # 1239

PASSIONATE AFFECTIONATE GAY ASIAN MALE wanting to meet straight-straight acting, real dark and light-skin African Americans or anyone of African decent. Box # 2038

A BOTTOM SEEKING A TOP. Black gay male 39 years old, 6' 1", 200 lbs. I am looking for a Top 25-37, down to earth, loving, caring, romantic. Someone intelligent & understanding who loves to get down all night long. Please leave a message. Box # 3003

ATTRACTIVE HISPANIC BOTTOM, 44, medium build, with love buns, seeks well hung Black Top man with very thick 8" or more for prolong hot times on a regular basis. Make me take it in any way you can deliver it. Box # 1096

VGL WM, 30, 6', 192 LBS into very muscular, intelligent, fun, affectionate, communicative Black men. I am articulate, witty, fun, with a good sense of humor, into working out, music, movies and friends. I am a good catch and you should be too. Box # 2113

SERIOUS, AFFECTIONATE, MASCULINE, HEALTHY, PROFESSIONAL BGM 5' 10 1/2", 190 lbs. Motorcycle riding, camping, weight lifting, contact sports, movies and gardening a favorite. Seeks other BGM with similar interests between 40 and 60 for friendship and possible relationship. Box # 1076

VERY CUTE SALVADOREAN/LATINO, 5' 7", light brown eyes, curly black hair. hairy body, nice tanned color. I am stable and would like to meet Black and Latino guys (Central Americans, Caribenos) with similar qualities. Box # 2039

NICE LOOKING BM, 6' 1", 205 LBS. VERY BIG LEGS, XXXCALFS. I need BIG DICK TRADE to go deep into my pussy. Only 95% tops. Be good looking, professional, clean, nice, Black, P. Rican, Cuban, Latin. I'm manly and fem. No queens or fems, or under 9" Box # 1252

PASSIONATE, STABLE, TOGETHER WM seeking a mate. Preferably GBM. I'm 30 y.o., 5' 8", 155 lbs., attractive, sexy & a bottom. Sincere, intelligent, attractive, sexy, no games, none-scene type of individual wanted. Seek and you shall find—Box # 2020

GBM, 32, 6' 1", 160 LBS. I AM MARRIED but looking for serious minded part time love. I enjoy music, TV and long walks on the beach. You be in good shape, open minded, rough trade. Bi okay, strong willed and minded. Versatile a big plus. Must be discreet. Box # 1286

GBM, 30, 5' 7", 155 LBS., DENZEL-LOOKING CHRISTIAN in-shape who works out, enjoys listening to music and being a man and who doesn't hate women. I love sexy, cool mixed-race men, 23-30, born on the east coast who are able to go back to the hood, tight body, nice feet, sexy lips. Box # 1375

SHM (PUERTO RICAN), 21, HANDSOME, AVG. HEIGHT, MEDIUM BUILD. Short dark hair, moustache, goatee, brown skin. Seeking casual, tall, big, hairy or non hairy Hispanic homeboy type (18-48) top with a big (8 1/2+) thick dick! for companionship. Regular guy lkg 4 regular guy who's not into the scene, drugs, all this bullshit out here! I love to joke around and have fun in and out of bed. Let's do it together. Call me now! Box # 4079

HANDSOME, HOT, HORNY, ROMANTIC, SUBMISSIVE BM, 55, 5' 11", 155 lbs., HIV +, seeks a "bossy" white guy (long hair a +). Submissive has need to surrender to a patient, caring, verbal, boss into having it "his way". Open to bondage, gear, etc. with relationship possibilities. Box # 1367

MASTER SEEKS BLK TRAINEES for TT, CBT, Butt discipline, dress code, attitude adjustment, physical training, total service. You: under 32, in shape, cln shaven, thick tongue, horse hung, bull nuts, bubble butt, novice. Uncut A+. Me: Mid 40s, X-Marine, in shape, experienced. No fakes, fems, barflies, smokers, druggies, gold diggers. Box # 2131

SEXY GAM, 20'S, SMOOTH, TAN, ATHLETIC, ISO guys under 30 for friendship, fun & more...please be sincere & down 2 earth. Into R & B, running, politics & more...call me! Box # 1336

BGM, 35, MASCULINE, MUSCULAR TOP, 5'11", 170 lbs., HIV-, seeks well-endowed GBM bottoms between 35-50 for sexual friction and casual friendship. Box # 1169

WANTED: BLACK OR PUERTO RICAN BOTTOMS. Hot black top seeks hot hairy-ass bottom body builder. If you are hot, hairy, horny and a freak, leave a message. Box # 1190

DARK SKIN BGM HIV- TOP, 5' 8", 151 lbs., attractive, endowed, cut, intelligent, romantic, ISO an attractive, intelligent, in shape, HIV- bottom for romantic sex. Box # 1033

CAMPING & HIKING MAN WANTED BY GWM, 6' 1", 205 LBS., HIV-, 37: likes outdoors, hiking, hot springs, bicycling, camping. Seeking a n/s GM who is looking for a friend to do these things with. Box # 3046

BM, 50, 5' 11", 185 LBS., STR8 ACTING, SPIRITUAL, MUSCULAR; intelligent, gym-goer, into books, walks, talks, music. Seeks BM/H with similar intellect for monogamous relationship, between 45 y.o. & 55 y.o. Serious only respond. HIV-. "Yall, this ain't no sex call." Box # 2133

CARIBBEAN NATIVE: SUCCESSFUL, CUTE, FRENCH-SPEAKING, 34, 5' 9", 140 LBS. New to L.A., into cycling, swimming, travel and romance. Looking for a special, independent, masculine topman, any age, who appreciates the finer things in life. Homeboy or cholo type will be considered. Box # 1133

NEW FROM TEXAS. WOULD YOU LIKE A SUPERFREAK? Well I'm into stud black tops with big huge cocks who know what they want. Must be 25-35, top and real. I'm a 25 GWM, 6', 190 lbs. blonde, green eyes and excellent underneath. Someone who will last. Box # 1377

AFFECTIONATE, EASY-GOING, FUN TO BE WITH GAY ASIAN MALE seeks straight-acting or straight man of color for friendship and maybe much more. Box # 2090

BLACK MALE, 6' 1", 39 YEARS OLD. I'm a bottom who is looking for a well hung cock on a masculine male to work on this "hot" ass all night long. If this sounds good to you, give me a call. Box # 2089

GBM, HOT, MASCULINE, INDEPENDENT, SHY, sexually passive bottom with potential, seeks Black, aggressive gentleman for intimacy and fun. Hairy chest and hung a plus. Looks unimportant. Boy, call me! I'll cook. Box # 1333

SUCKSLAVE NEEDS TO PLEASE! Keep me at crotch level for long sessions of repeated servicing. I won't question your needs and will take each load. Seek single or couple. Your place weekdays 10 AM/ 3 PM I'm normally available to completely satisfy the oral way. WM 47. Horny. Box # 1362

BLACK TOP STUD NEEDED by 55 yr. old slim, straight acting affectionate GWM with talented tongue to make love to your nipples and cock. I have a receptive pink pussy that would love to have your big hard cock slip into it and stretch it, then make love to your cock for hours. 3-way OK. Box # 1342

LOOKING FOR LOVE & AFFECTION!!! BGM, 47 years young, HIV+, business oriented, shy, attractive Pisces, ISO a black man—35 to 55 years young—-interested in a committed & passionate relationship. I'm tired of being along and looking for love and affection!!! Box # 1356

TALL, DARK & HANDSOME 6' 4", 209 LBS. OF STRAIGHT LUV seeks the Impossible. UB Black w/no games, drugs or bull. Start as friends, etc. If you are not happy, what's the point? Box # 1366

HANDSOME, ROMANTIC BLACK PASSIONATE TOP MAN. Black male, 6'1, 190 lbs., looking for a hot Black man with nice body who wants really nice, warm and passionate love made to him. Box # 1026

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KEEP IT UP L.A.

AIDS PREVENTION TEAM
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LOS ANGELES, CA 90019
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A PROJECT OF
THE BLACK GAY & LESBIAN
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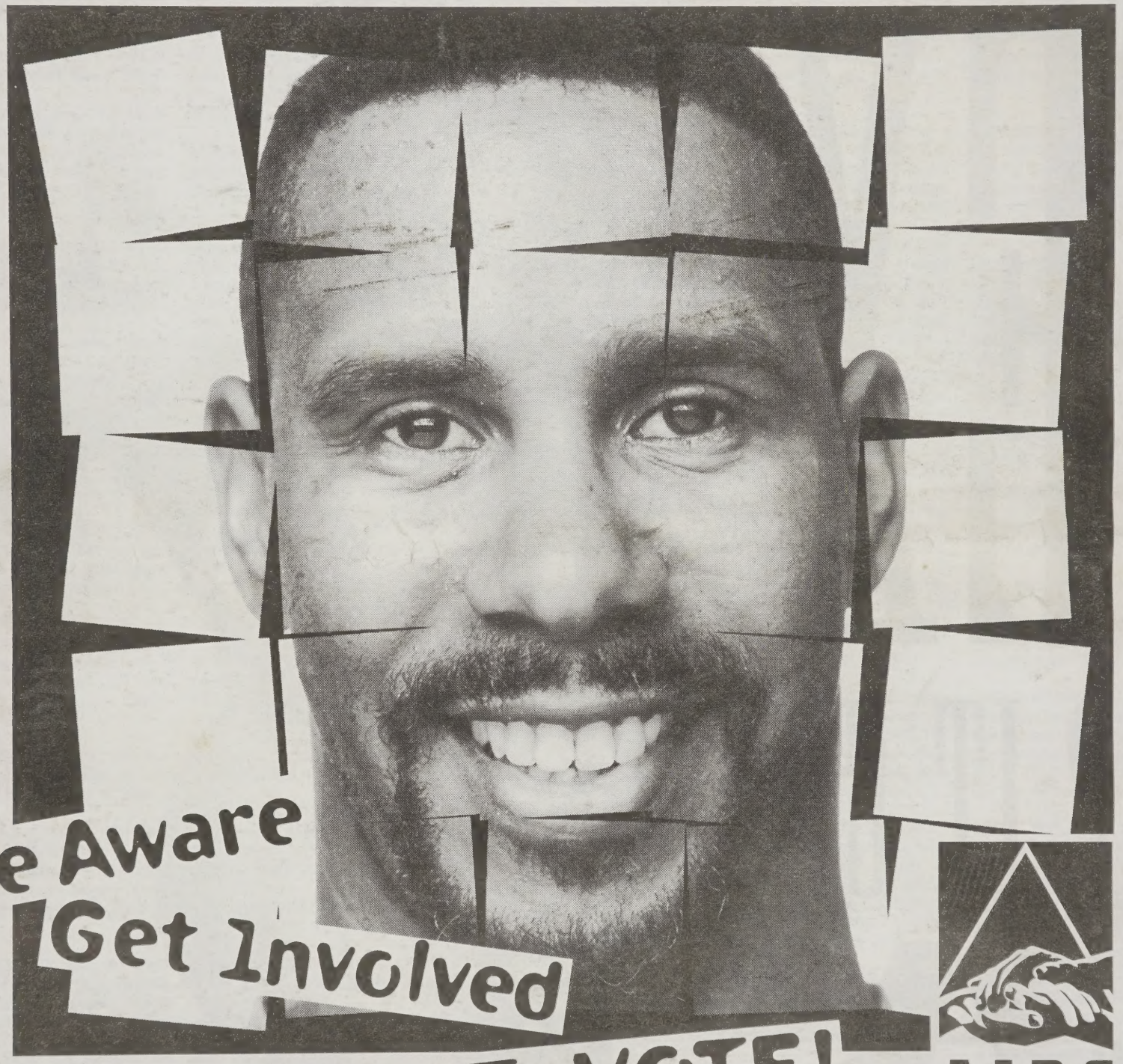

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